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A HANGING EXPERIENCE.

The sensations as described by a Kansas man.

"I was hanged for a horse thief once," said F. H. Stephens, a contractor hailing from the Sunflower state, to a Globe-Democrat man. "It was just after the war. Steve, I believe, was a very fine fellow, and I had just moved into the state from Michigan. I bought a horse, a regular old plow plug, from a youngster who appeared to be all right, and the next day mounted him and started to Fort Scott to transact some business.

"I had ridden perhaps a dozen miles when I was overtaken by a posse of armed men who were hunting for a horse thief. The horse I was riding had been stolen from a member of the party, and I was swung up to the limb of a tree by the roadside without being given a chance to explain. There was a sharp, momentary pain, a choking sensation, succeeded by one that I can only compare to the delightful intoxication of the opium smoker, and then unconsciousness. I would like to describe that sensation again, but do not care to undergo the necessary preliminaries. The party concluded that I might have confederates, and let me down, hoping that I would peach.

"The coming back to life was a good deal more painful than falling from the tree. When I got to my feet I told my story, but it was not believed. I was taken to a jail, and after a few days, when a neighbor, returning from Fort Scott, came along and convinced them that they had the wrong man."

PEOPLE OF EASTERN PERU

The mountains of South America and its inhabitants.

Eastern Peru, though changing its political title at various periods, has been called the Montana or wooded country since the first colony was planted there, two hundred and fifty-six years ago, says a writer in Harper's Weekly. The experience of the early settlers were an endless succession of romantic adventures. Towns were built and destroyed many times, and there is scarcely a single site which has not been bathed with the blood of white and Indian through centuries of conflict. Spanish and Peruvian possession of this territory has consequently been more nominal than real until within the last twenty years, during which time several of the old mission stations have flourished forth into cities of from two thousand to six thousand inhabitants under the commercial stimulus given by the opening of the Amazon to the flags of all nations in 1850.

Accordingly the majority of the pure whites now living in the Montana are either Peruvians originally from the west coast or Germans, French and English, with two or three Americans who have been attracted to this remote corner of the globe by the prospect of speedily amassing fortunes in the rubber trade. These new comers are often noble examples of manhood, full of that courage and determination which are needed in establishing government and commercial prosperity in the midst of a nomadic and sometimes treacherous native population. Women of apparently equal rank are, however, conspicuously absent.

OLD BURIAL CUSTOMS.

The Way Funerals Are Conducted by Different Races.

The Mohammedans always, whether in their own country or one of adoption, bury without coffin or casket of any kind.

The Greeks sometimes buried their dead in the ground, but more generally in the initiation of the Romanesque.

In India, up to within the last few years, either according to her wishes or otherwise, was cremated on the same funeral pyre that converted her husband's ashes into ashes.

Where a child dies in Greenland, says the Chicago Mail, the natives bury a live fish with the dog to be used by the child's parents in the other world. When questioned in regard to this peculiar superstition, they will answer, "A dog can find his way anywhere."

The Mexicans attach to the hands of their dead their gold and silver, and these are buried with them.

The Hindus, in some places, place a tortoise on the head of the dead person's hands, and this is given to St. Peter at the gates of heaven.

It is said that the Chinese bury their dead with a tin plate, which is placed over the face, and is made of iron or steel coated with tin. Terne plate is sheets of plate iron or steel covered with an alloy of tin and lead, usually two-thirds lead and one-third tin. It is this alloy that gives rise to the name of terne plate, which is the French equivalent of the English adjective term, meaning threefold. The oft-repeated statement that terne is from a French word meaning dull is incorrect. Terne plate, because of the presence of lead in the coating, is duller than tin plate, which is frequently called bright plate; but it is not this fact that gave rise to the appellation terne, but the union of the three metals. There is a question as to whether the tin used forms an alloy with iron or is only a simple coating. It seems to be more firmly attached to the iron than a mere coating would be, rarely if ever when the sheet is properly prepared scaling off, but requiring absolute rubbing away to remove it. It is probable that the tin coating forms an alloy with the iron.

LAWYERS IN SING SING.

One of Them is Preparing a Brief on Behalf of Another Prisoner.

Sing Sing has five lawyers among its tenants. They were all sent there recently, and their connections with the outside world have not been broken so completely as in the case of convicts who have served many years of a long term. One of these lawyers has not only not cut off connection with the world outside but he spends his spare time in the prison in reading more law and in working at law papers. He does not get fees for the services he works at, but it is a pleasure for him to work at his profession in Sing Sing than to sit around and think idly during the moments imposed upon him by the prison officials. The New York Sun thinks highly of the reputation and ability for shrewdness that this lawyer has that not only has prepared his own case on appeal and prepared the cases of other prisoners, but lawyers in New York who know him from time to time ask him to get up bills of exceptions in cases on appeal.

This interesting convict is Abraham Snydman. He is serving a five-year sentence for grand larceny on July 19, 1889. His experience shows some of the defects of the criminal laws of the state, though, as he said, it is not so much that depriving him of his liberty as that it grieves him as a lawyer to see anyone committed to Sing Sing with such a disregard of the niceties of the criminal law as was shown in his case. Although he was not sent to Sing Sing until May 19, 1891. The interval he spent in the toms and did a fairly large law business there, advising other prisoners and consulting about their cases. In Sing Sing he is looked on as a great authority on criminal law, and he is preparing a brief for James E. Bedell, another lawyer, who is serving a sentence of twenty-five years for forgery, and it is crushed by it, while Snydman is bright, chipper and intellectually active. Both he and Bedell are at work on the books of the prison, the highest class of employment there. They are well liked by the officials, as they cause no trouble.

MARRIAGES IN CHINA.

It Is Not Absolutely Necessary for the Bridegroom to Be Present.

A Chinese engagement dates its beginning from the exchange of red cards between the parents of the contracting parties. These cards in many districts are immense documents almost the size of a horse blanket. They are important for the reason that they are used as evidence in case of disagreements in the future. We seldom hear in China of broken engagements. Yet if a quarrel cannot be settled peaceably recourse is had to the law, and the judge usually declares the contract null and void. The chief interest in the marriage is the arrival of the bride in her bridal clothes before the house of her chosen one. That is a de facto fulfillment of the contract. The wedding day is determined by the parents of the groom. The imperial calendar names the lucky days, and on such days the so-called "red celebra" take place, both in the city and country. The same bridal clothes may be used several times in district where the custom is to distribute the weddings in the forenoon the place in the afternoon or in the evening, according to the Otsiatist chief Lloyd. The Chinese thus hope to make them less important. That the chief part of a Chinese marriage is the arrival of the bride at the house of the groom is illustrated again by the fact that a woman is often married without her husband being present at their own wedding. It is not believed to be fortunate to change the wedding day when once decided. If the future husband, therefore, happens to be called away on the wedding day the marriage takes place by sending the bride to his house.

Chinese law recognizes seven grounds for divorce from a woman—childless improper conduct, neglect of the parson of the husband and incurable disease. A natural consequence of the importance attached in China to male heirs is that where they are absent, the husband marries a cowife. This, however, is not general, and is limited to families of wealth. The bad results of the system are recognized by the Chinese themselves. The practice of divorcing a woman has adopted a more simple method of obtaining heirs—the adoption of children who belong to side branches of the family. In this way the family line is kept intact. In the absence of male descendants in the side branches of the family, the sons of strangers are adopted. The Chinese prefer this method to marrying second wives.

DEFENSE OF THE PEACOCK.

It Is Not True, as Said, That His Feet Are Ugly—How He Comes to Be Ugly.

"Who says that the peacock has ugly feet?" Taxidermist Wood, of the Smithsonian institution, to a Washington Star reporter. "I have heard and read that piece of nonsense ever since I was a child, and I understand that it is recorded as an ornithological truth in classic Greek and Latin. You will come across mention of it even in the translation of the fact that most people never use their own physical eyes, but rely on the reports of their notions of other things upon the observations of others.

"I have just finished mounting this pair of peacocks. Isn't the male bird a beauty? You can see for yourself that his feet are decidedly pretty, well shaped and rather small in proportion to his size. They are very slightly bigger than those of a turkey, and he can hold himself handsomely. The same can be said of the hen bird, unattractive though the latter is as to other points. Wherever in the feathered kingdom the cock bird is the handsomer he does the courting, while in the comparatively unusual case where the female is more gorgeous she it is that takes the initiative in the love-making.

"It is a curious thing to observe that the male peacock in courting his chosen mate approaches her from the rear, and that he holds up his tail feathers and backward. Then, on coming close, he wheels suddenly about, with every plume trembling in the sunlight, and dazzles her all at once with his beauty. As for the popular misconception respecting his feet, there can be no doubt as to how it originated. When the peacock is pointed at, being naturally a wild bird, he is apt to drop his tail feathers, and the impression is made that he is objects of attention and accordingly sought to hide them. Of course, nothing could be more absurd."

ANIMAL INSTINCT.

Singular Sagacity Displayed by Wild Horses.

That cattle and horses can communicate intelligence to each other and are endowed with a certain amount of reasoning faculty is the following facts are pretty conclusive proof. I once purchased a station on which a large number of cattle and horses had gone wild. To get the cattle in I fenced the permanent water—a distance of twenty miles—leaving traps at intervals. At first this answered all right, but soon the cattle became exceedingly cautious about entering the traps, waiting only for two or three high night winds to go in, and if they could smell a man or his tracks not going in at all. At last a mob would come to the trap-gate, and one would go in and drink and come out, and then another would do the same, and so on till all had watered. They had evidently arrived at the conclusion that I would not catch one and frighten all the others away. To get the wild horses, six hundred in all, which were running on a large plain (about twenty thousand acres), I erected a stock yard with a gradually widened lane in a hollow where it could not easily be seen, and by stationing horse men at intervals on the plain galloped the wild horses in. My first hunt (which lasted for some days) was successful, the wild horses heading toward the mouth of the lane—without much difficulty, but of course some escaped by charging back at the stock yard gate. My second hunt, and in a month later, was a failure. A mob of horses on the plain seemed to know where the yard was and would not head that way. This seems to show that the horses that escaped from the first hunt told all the others where the stock yard was.

SEEING WITH ONE EYE.

Effect of Judgment Trained by Binocular Vision.

A person may see as far with one perfect eye as with two, but he cannot see as clearly; for the advantage that binocular or double vision, possesses over monocular, or one-eyed vision, is that the former, by allowing the object to reach sight of the object from two different points of view, gives him at once some idea of the proportions of its different parts.

But though this is true in theory, in practice the judgment interferes, and the judgment has been educated and in measure rendered independent of the services of binocular vision by experience and the use of other senses, such as touch, says the Washington Post.

Thus a man with only one eye is never deceived as to the nature of an object with which he is well acquainted, for the report of it that he gets from his vision is corrected and supplemented by his experienced judgment and transmitted to his centers of consciousness in as perfect a form as that which reaches those of a man with two eyes.

The advantage of binocular vision may be thus further illustrated: In rapidly dipping a pen into an inkstand and putting a stopper into a decanter the one-eyed man cannot judge accurately as to the two-eyed man. Or again, if we shut one eye and attempt to plunge the finger rapidly into the open mouth of a bottle we are apt to over-reach or fall short of it.

An Affectionate Jackal.

The jackal is only a little wild dog. Its body is but fourteen or fifteen inches long, its tail about ten more, and it stands about fifteen inches high. It has the habits of a dog; when wild it howls, but when tame it barks just like a house dog. It is nocturnal in its habits, but that is because the heat of the climate in Asia and Africa is so great that most animals shut the light, and the jackal does not like the heat any more than other animals do. It is easily tamed, and becomes as affectionate and faithful as any dog.

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LEGENDS ABOUT THE POTATO.

Queer Stories About its Introduction into Russia and England.

When potatoes were first introduced into Russia by a Mr. Rowland (the exact date of the introduction of the tuber into that benighted country being a subject of controversy, but usually set down at 1791) the people would neither plant nor touch them. They declared them to be the devil's fruit, and that they were given to his Satanic majesty on his complaint to God that he had no fruit. God told him to "search the earth for food." Whereupon the poor devil fell to digging in the earth and found potatoes growing therein.

A similar legend seems to have obtained credit among the staid Britons in the West-Indies. In that the introduction of potatoes is popularly attributed to Sir Michael Scott, one known all over Europe as "The Wizard of the North." According to the story Michael and the devil formed a partnership and took the lease of a farm on the Merton estates, called the "Whitehouse." Michael was called the "Whitehouse," and the devil was called the "Blackhouse." Michael was to manage the farm, and the devil was to supply him with potatoes to be sold to the following number:

The first year Michael was to have all that grew above the ground, and the devil all that grew beneath the surface; the second year shares were to be divided in just the opposite way. His Satanic majesty, however, was so badly pleased with the potato, that he first sowed all the land in wheat the first year and planted it all in potatoes the second. So the poor devil got nothing but wheat stubble and potato tops. How these absurd legends originated no one seems to know, but the fact remains that the peasantry of both Russia and England even to this day frequently allude to potatoes as "devil's fruit."

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STOCK BRANDS.

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Allen, T. J., Leno, Or.—Horse, 60 on left shoulder, cattle same on left hip, under bit on right ear, and upper bit on left ear, Morrow county.

Armstrong, J. C., Alpine, Or.—T with bar under bit, on left shoulder of horse; cattle same on left hip.

Allison, O. D., Eight Mile, Or.—Cattle brand, O D on left hip and horse same brand on right shoulder. Range, Eight Mile, Morrow county.

Adkins, J. J., Heppner, Or.—Horse, J A connected on left flank, cattle same on left hip.

Birchbolen, A. G., Alpine, Or.—Horse, brand B on left shoulder, Range in Morrow county.

Blackman, Geo., Hamilton, Or.—Horse, a half-shelf shoulder, cattle same on left shoulder, under bit on left hip, and upper bit on right hip, cattle same on left hip, under bit on right ear, Morrow county.

Brown, W. G., Heppner, Or.—Horse, box brand on right hip, cattle same on left hip, under bit on right ear, Morrow county.

Borg, F. O., Heppner, Or.—Horse, P B on left shoulder, cattle same on left hip.

Brown, W. J., Fox, Or.—Horse, J H connected on left side, crop on left ear, and upper bit on middle piece on right ear, on left ear, and upper bit on left ear, Range in Fox Valley, Grant county.

Carter, Warren, Wagner, Or.—Horse, brand O on right side, cattle same on left shoulder, under bit on left ear, and upper bit on right ear, and all horses over 5 years. All range in Grant county.

Clark, Wm. H., Leno, Or.—Horse, W H C connected on left shoulder, cattle same on right hip, Range Morrow and Umatilla counties.

Clegg, Wm., Douglas, Or.—Horse, J J on left shoulder, cattle same on left hip, under bit on right ear, and upper bit on left ear, Range Morrow and Umatilla counties.

Chick, H., Hamilton, Or.—Horse, brand H on right shoulder, cattle same on right hip, Range Morrow and Umatilla counties.

Dickens, Ed., Heppner, Or.—Horse, brand H on right side, cattle same on left hip, under bit on right ear, and upper bit on left ear, Range Morrow and Umatilla counties.

Douglas, D. T., Douglas, Or.—Horse, TD on right side, cattle same on right hip.

Davis, B. S., Douglas, Or.—Horse, brand ED on left shoulder, cattle same on left hip, hole in right ear.

Dickens, Ed., Heppner, Or.—Diamond on right shoulder.

Emery, C. S., Hamilton, Or.—Horse, brand E on right side, cattle same on left hip, Range Morrow county.

Block, Jackson, Heppner, Or.—Horse, J F on right side, cattle same on left hip, Range Morrow county.

Florence, L. A., Heppner, Or.—Cattle, LP on right hip, horse F with bar under on right shoulder.

Florence, S. P., Heppner, Or.—Horse, F on right shoulder, cattle F on right hip or thigh.

W. F., with bar over it, on left side, crop on left ear, Range Morrow and Umatilla counties.

Gay, Henry, Heppner, Or.—GAY on left shoulder.

Gilman-French, Land and Live Stock Co., Fox, Or.—Horse, and S on left shoulder; cow, S on right side, cattle same on both hips, Range in Gilman, Grant, Crook and Morrow counties.

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