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Costly Job.

"How's your husband this morning, Mrs. Finnigan?" "Oh, he's very poorly, yer riverence! And it's a mighty expensive disease he's got. The docthor says I've to kape him in good spirits."—P. I. P.

Knew What She Wanted.

Little Ruth listened in silence while one after another of her elders refused all but the smallest possible helpings of mince pie. One wanted "just a little piece," another "only a very little," etc. When the child's turn came she passed her plate eagerly. "Please give me too much," her native sincerity desired.

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Life on Mongolian Prairies

MONGOL FARMERS

DURING the last few days, using Mr. Jobst's camp as a basis of operation, I have made several expeditions over the Mongolian prairies and have visited numerous Mongol encampments. In this way I have been able to study at close range the customs, habits and mode of life of the Mongols, writes Luther Anderson from Sangen Talai, Mongolia. The Mongol habitation is a kind of a tent, called a "jurt," which is made of felt stretched over a framework of poles and interlaced staves. The felt is held in place by strong ropes, which are wound about the whole structure in such a way as to make it impossible for the strongest wind to tear it to pieces. The careful way in which the framework is fitted together, as well as the extreme thickness of the felt, gives the structure an appearance of solidity and snugness which is not possessed by the ordinary tent. In fact, the "jurt" comes nearer being a hut than a tent. The "jurt" is circular in form and has a conical roof. A wooden door, very low, serves as the entrance. An opening in the top of the conical roof serves as a vent for the smoke and also lets in the light. Directly under this vent in the center of the earthen floor is a fire over which is placed an iron stripod which supports a shallow kettle in which food is prepared.

Easily Loaded on a Camel.

The "jurt" is so constructed that it can quickly be taken down, folded up and loaded on a camel or a cart. This feature is necessitated by the fact that the Mongols are a nomadic people and must often move with their herds to new grazing grounds. For a movable structure the "jurt" is fairly roomy, being about 16 feet in diameter, some 5 feet high at the lowest part and from 8 to 10 feet high in the central part. Inside the "jurt" earth is removed so that the floor is about a foot and a half below the level of the ground outside. This gives the inside circular wall a height of six and a half feet, thus making it possible for the tallest men to move about freely in any part of the "jurt."

The interior of the "jurt" is clean and presents an attractive appearance. The circular wall is ornamented with hangings of embroidered silk, while furs and Tibetan rugs are spread on the earthen floor. Brightly painted boxes and chests, with brass locks and hinges, are placed close against the circular wall. These are the family wardrobes and treasure chests. Here are kept the holiday clothes, the silver and gold ornaments of the women and the sacred books of the Buddhist religion. Opposite the door is the family altar, whereon one finds a small statue of Buddha and other deities, in front of which are placed cups of wine and tiny lamps which are always lighted.

In one "jurt" I saw an altar on which was placed a photograph of the Hutuktu of Living Buddha of Urga, the highest ecclesiastical dignitary of all Mongolia, who was last year crowned king of Outer Mongolia when that country declared itself independent of China. Near the altar is a lowly cot for the head of the household. All the other members of the family sleep on skins spread on the floor, the women being assigned the most inferior and drafty place near the door.

Rich Mongols sometimes build several "jurts" close together, one leading into the other, so that the home may boast of several rooms. One rich Mongol whom we visited had one "jurt" set aside for his idols. This "jurt" served the double purpose of a temple and a reception room for guests.

We are accustomed to think of a tent as a temporary habitation used for the purpose of camping out when circumstances force us to live outdoors for a short season. To the Mongol the "jurt" is not a temporary habitation, but a real home. Here he is born and reared; here he spends his life, and here he is finally prepared for his last rest. Excepting for a few rich men and princes, who have built Chinese houses, all Mongols live in "jurts."

Food of the Mongols.

The food of the Mongols consists of mutton, beef, milk, butter and various kinds of gruels made from millet, wheat and other grains which they purchase from the Chinese. Buttered tea and milk are the most common beverages. On festival occasions the Mongols drink a clear, transparent liquor made from mare's milk. Being a nomadic people the Mongols have almost all of their wealth in the shape of herds of cattle, horses, sheep and camels. I visited one Mongol who had 600 horses, 500 head of cattle, 1,000 sheep and some fifty camels. He was considered a very rich man.

Mongols live a life in the open air very much like that of our western cowboys. They spend a large part of their time on horseback and are therefore wonderful riders. Not only the men, but the women and children ride horseback with that natural ease and dignity which comes only by continued practice. The Mongol herdsmen perform all the dashing feats of horsemanship for which our cowboys are famous. They lasso horses and cattle with a rope which is fastened to a long pole, forming a loop at one end and passing along the pole to the rider, who can loosen or tighten the noose at will. They brand horses and cattle much in the same manner as it is done on our western plains. The horses, cattle, sheep and camels are out of doors the whole year round. In the winter they scrape the snow away with their hoofs and are thus able to find their sustenance from the dry grass. The herds require constant watching so as not to stray too far from the "jurts" of their owners. Several herders can be seen with each herd at any time during the day or night.

The invigorating, open air life of the Mongols make them a strong, healthy race, free from most of the diseases which afflict more civilized but less active nations. Rheumatism is, however, very common among them, owing to their sleeping on the ground with only some skins for a bed and to their being exposed to extreme cold winters, against which their huts do not afford sufficient protection. Many Mongols are also afflicted with diseases of the eye caused by the smoke which fills the "jurt" when a fire is kindled, and on rainy days when the smoke vent at the top of the "jurt" must be made smaller or even closed entirely.

When a rich Mongol dies he is placed on a funeral pyre and cremated. On such occasions hundreds and sometimes thousands of Mongols come to witness the ceremony. After the cremation the ashes are collected and placed in a covered jar, which is buried. A poor Mongol has a less classic but more picturesque funeral. The body is stripped of clothes and placed on a low cart, which is driven at breakneck speed across the prairies. The driver, who never once looks behind him, does not turn homeward before he feels, by the way the cart is running, that the corpse has been jolted off. Some time later a small stone or perhaps only a piece of wood inscribed with Mongol and Tibetan characters is placed near the whitened bones of the decedent.

The Mongols are a good natured people friendly and kind. They are famous for their hospitality and are always ready to give the stranger the seat of honor opposite the door of the "jurt." He is welcome to partake of anything they have to eat or drink, and is as safe at their hearth as he would be in his own home.

Sheering Off Temptation.

A pompous merchant, arrogantly carrying the signs of his prosperity about him, accosted an acquaintance of his who conducts a successful rescue mission, and said:

"James, I'd like to attend one of your meetings."

"Certainly," rejoined the minister, "but leave your watch and diamonds with the hotel clerk."

"What?" asked the merchant, in astonishment. "Are not the men of your mission converted thieves?"

"True," answered the mission leader, softly, "but, George, you look so easy and wholesome. Really, I don't want my men to regret they promised me never to stead again."—The Outlook.

Bill From Buffalo.

A theatrical manager strolled into a hotel with Col. William F. Cody, and met Jim Thornton, the eccentric monologist.

The manager greeted Mr. Thornton and, turning to Cody, said: "I would like to have you meet my friend here, Mr. Thornton."

"Mr. Thornton, this is Col. William F. Cody, better known as Buffalo Bill."

Mr. Thornton, gripping the wild west showman's hand, said: "Glad to know you, Bill; what part of Buffalo are you from?"—National Monthly.

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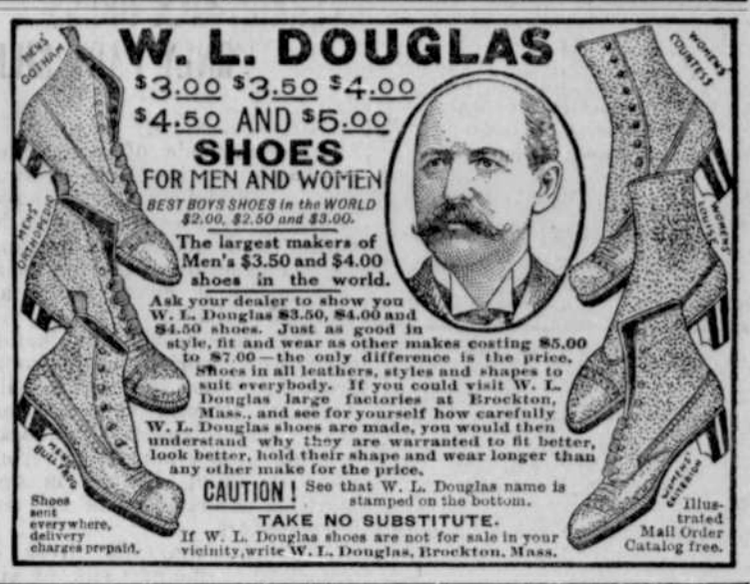

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Kissing Conjugated.

"Sam Slick once said that kisses were like creation—made out of nothing and very good; and another American writer thus conjugated the verb "to kiss." "Buss, to kiss; rebus, to kiss again; pluribus, to kiss without regard to numbers; syllabus, to kiss the hands instead of the lips; blunderbuss, to kiss the wrong person; erbus, to kiss in the dark; omnibus, to kiss every one in the room."

Pettits Eye Salve Quickly Ends Weak, Sore Eyes

Cheating the Stage.

"Why is there no great American dramatist?" asked the art pessimist. "Because," replied the sardonic manager, "when an American is capable of thinking up a first-class practical plot and dressing it up in good speeches he doesn't bother about the theater. He goes into politics."

Red Cross Ball Blue gives double value for your money, goes twice as far as any other. Ask your grocer.

Going Back.

Uncle Ezra—Did you see "Hamlet" at the opera house last night? Uncle Eben—Yep, and I tell you that fellow Shakespeare is certainly falling off. It wasn't near as good as his "Comedy of Errors" that I saw twenty years ago.—Puck.

Mothers will find Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup the best remedy to use for their children during the teething period.

Many Miles of Sausage Links.

The sausage eaten in this country in the course of a year would encircle the earth more than six times.

HOW TO GROW HAIR ON A BALD HEAD

BY A SPECIALIST.

Thousands of people suffer from baldness and falling hair who, having tried nearly every advertised hair tonic and hair-grower without results, have resigned themselves to baldness and its attendant discomfort. Yet their case is not hopeless; the following simple home prescription has made hair grow after years of baldness, and is also unequalled for restoring gray hair to its original color, stopping hair from falling out, and destroying the dandruff germ. It will not make the hair greasy, and can be put up by any druggist: Bay Rum, 6 ounces; Lavona de Composee, 2 ounces; Menthol Crystals, one-half drachm. If you wish it perfumed, add half to one teaspoonful of To-Kalon Perfume, which unites perfectly with the other ingredients. This preparation is highly recommended by physicians and specialists, and is absolutely harmless, as it contains none of the poisonous wood alcohol so frequently found in hair tonics. Do not apply to the face or where hair is not desired.

Daily Thought.

Forget ourselves; help us bear cheerfully the forgetfulness of others.—Robert Louis Stevenson.

You Can Get Allen's Foot-Ease FREE.

Write Allen S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y., for a free sample of Allen's Foot-Ease. It cures sweating, hot swollen, aching feet. It makes new or tight shoes easy. A certain cure for corns, ingrowing nails and bunions. All druggists sell it. 25c. Don't accept any substitute.

Freak of a Vowel.

Grigg—"This morning I caught a fragment of conversation between a native and a foreigner. The former was saying: 'The "o," remember, is pronounced like "I" in Jim.' What word do you suppose he referred to?" Briggs—"That's easy! 'Women,' of course."

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Making It Clear.

The breakfaster had ordered a halibut steak. The waiter returned to announce that a steak could not be served, but that a filet was possible. "The filet comes from here," he explained, laying two fingers athwart his side and speaking as one perfectly good halibut to another.

Woman's Prerogative.

"Does your wife ever change her mind?" "Only on some minor matters," replied Mr. Meekton after careful thought. "I believe I recall that she once expressed an intention to love, honor and obey, or something like that."

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One settlement worker in New York city has made a specialty of teaching boys how to make articles of furniture out of old packing boxes.

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