ORGANIZED THIEVERY.

A Peruvian Company Whose Object Is the Plundering of the Dead.

A limited liability company has been formed at Mellendo, with a capital of $40,000. It is called the Compana Anonima Exploradora de Las Huscas del Inca, and its business is to be the searching of the old burial grounds of the Peruvian Incas, for buried treasure in money or other valuables. It has received a concession from the Peruvian authorities, and proposes to go at its work in a systematic, business-like fashion. The field of the company has been pretty well worked over already by the horde of hap-hazard plunderers from all parts of the world, who have flocked to Peru from the times of Pizarro till the present day, but there are yet some very substantial legends of buried wealth that has not yet been discovered. Under the old Castle of Cuzco, for instance, Felipe de Pomanes tells that there is a vault containing figures of all the Incas wrought in fine gold, and that in his own day they had been seen by a certain Dona Maria de Esquevil. She, the story goes, was married to a descendant of the Incas, and reproached him with being too poor to support her properly. This, at last, so irritated him that he led her blindfolded through many winding passages into a room where she saw wealth such as no mortal ever dreamed of, and asked her what she thought of that for a poor man's nest-egg. When Humboldt was exploring in the neighborhood of the Temple of the Sun, at Cuzco, a poor lad, a descendant of the ancient kings, told him the story, which is still current among the Indians, that the golden chair of the Incas was sunk in the baths at Pultamarac, and that there are gardens with artificial trees of the purest gold beneath the temple. These gardens, by the way, are mentioned by the earliest historians of the Conquest. Humbolt's lad, when asked why he did not seek for this hidden treasure, said that it would do him no good if he found it, but would only cause his neighbors to hate and injure him. "We have a little field," he said, "and good wheat." That contented him. This same spirit seems to have animated all the descendants of the ancient race of Peru, and encourages people like those who have just put $40,000 into the Society Exploradora to hope that only a part of the ancient treasure has ever been discovered. It is alleged that the Indians can generally get gold when they actually need it, as at the time of the rebelion of Pumacaqua, in 1814, when, according to the story of an old woman of the Astete family, told to Mr. Markham some thirty years ago, her father having been a colleague of Pumacaqua and present at the time, Pumacaqua entered the council chambers laden with gold and dripping wet, from a journey he had made up the bed of the Huatanay to a cave filled with golden figures. It was always believed then, according to the historians, that the rebel chiefs had some such store to draw upon; and it is certain that after his final defeat Pumacaqua offered the thieves a pile of gold bigger than that of Atahualpa, the ancient chieftain, as a ransom for his life. The offer was declined, and he died with the secret unrevealed, at least to his conquerors.

This Atahualpa, it is a matter of history, when in captivity, offered a room filled with gold as a ransom, but Pizarro demanded double the amount, and the Incas agreeing, sent messengers all over the kingdom to bring it. These messengers, on their way to the capital, heard that Atahualpa had been strangled, and they threw down their loads of gold, and, it is said, buried them somewhere in the mountains of Llanganati, to the northwest of Quito, though no search has ever revealed the spot. Then there is the golden chain of the Incas, every link as thick as a man's arm, and its length so great that it went twice around the great square of Huacapata, and which is said to have been thrown into the deep lake of Urcos to save it from the Spaniards. There can still be seen a drift which the Spaniards started through the mountains to drain the lake, but which was never completed. While these and similar legends do very well to fire the ardor of dubious investors in the stock of the Society Exploradora, it is highly probable that the actual work of the company will be in the less romantic line of digging up the bones of ancient inhabitants for the sake of the trinkets which may have been buried with them. This sort of petty thievery is less attractive to the imagination than the exhumation of forests of golden trees and conventions of golden Incas, but it will probably pay better in the end.—*N. Y. Sun.*

Village Destroyed by Ice.

Advices from the fishing village of Kerschkaranza, in Kola, a peninsula on the White Sea, describe a wonderful phenomenon, new in Artic annals, which took place on January 5 last At four o'clock in the morning the inhabitants were awakened by a series of heavy, dull detonations, like heavy artillery. Shortly afterward a great ice wall to the northwest, several hundred feet high, was seen to be moving toward the village, doubtless in consequence of the pressure of the ocean of ice outside. The ice hills came slowly but irresistibly onward and passed over the village, which they completely erased, and kept onward for a mile inland. The ice traveled a mile and a half in four hours. The villagers saved their lives, but little else.—*Philadelphia Press.*

Extensive Outdoor Advertising.

On great thoroughfares some men are only too glad to put up fences for the owners and consider the permission a privilege. And they erect costly fences at that. Where an old building on Broadway, for instance, is being raised, a master bill poster or advertising sign man will fence the lot and pay something handsome for the exclusive use of the boards. He will use the best material and have the job done in first class style. When the big postoffice was in course of erection the contractor received a small fortune for the use of the extensive fence that surrounded the plot of ground, and the subcontracting advertising firm is said to have realized thousands of dollars during its protracted stay.

CURE FOR BLINDNESS.

An Operation Which Relieves the Brain and Restores Sight.

English surgeons have devised a new and beneficent operation by which the sheath of the optic nerve behind the eye is opened and not only is the pressure upon the nerve removed, and total, or almost total, blindness cured, but the brain itself is relieved. The membranes which invest the brain, and are continued down to the eye in the form of a sheath which surrounds the optic nerve, secrete a certain amount of fluid, and whenever there is an excess of this secretion, or by other means, as by the growth of a brain tumor, the pressure within the cavity of the brain is increased, a superabundance of fluid is apt to find its way down the nerve sheath to the level of the eye, subjecting the optic nerve to injurious pressure and frequently destroying the sight. This blindness may be permanent, even though the pressure in the brain cavity which causes it be only temporary and be cured. Dr. Dewecker, of Paris, sixteen or seventeen years ago, suggested that it was possible to open the optic-nerve sheath, and thus not only to relieve the nerve from pressure, but also to drain the brain cavity and relieve the brain pressure there. He made two experiments in this line upon two nearly hopeless cases, but he tried to feel his way to the nerve without the aid of sight, and to cut the sheath by means of an instrument carrying a concealed knife which was projected by means of a spring. Only one other attempt of this sort was made, and the results not being satisfactory, the experiments were dropped until last year. Dr. Brudenell Carter, of London, devised a method of operating by which the sheath was exposed to view, and every step of the operation was guided by the surgeon's eye. In a paper read before the British Medical Association at its recent meeting at Glasgow, Dr. Carter told of four cases in which he had performed the operation. In one the result was negative, so far as the sight was concerned; in the other three the patients were not only quickly restored to sight, but were relieved or cured of headache and sickness arising from pressure on the brain. Dr. Carter claims that the new operation could be performed with certainty and without risk either to life or to any important structure.

Dr. Bickerton, of Liverpool, at the same meeting said that after hearing of Dr. Carter's first case, he has performed the operation himself in two cases, in one of which temporary restoration of sight was followed by a relapse, but in the other one the result was favorable.—*N. Y. Cor. Chicago Journal.*

WONDERFUL BLIND MAN.

He Knows How to Work a Type-Writer and Can Play an Organ.

The Rev. E. R. Donchoo, secretary of the Pittsburgh association which proposes to erect an institution for the instruction of the blind, has received a remarkable letter from Alden F. Hays, a prominent blind citizen of Sewickley. The letter is in the clear and pretty characters of the type-writer, and was written upon the machine by that gentleman himself. In it Mr. Hays briefly tells Mr. Donchoo his own history, to show what wonders may be worked among the blind people by education.

He was for eight years a pupil in the Philadelphia Institution for the Blind, where so many blind boys and girls from Allegheny were trained. He is now a man of about thirty-eight years of age. His career since leaving school and his present mode of life present some marvelous facts. A few of these he relates to Mr. Donchoo as an evidence of the bright future that is possible for every blind person, if schooling advantages were only more common.

Mr. Hays is a son of the brilliant General Alexander Hays, whose heroic services in the late war ended with death in the Wilderness. He is now, and has been for several years past, a coal merchant, supplying most of Sewickley with fuel. He conducts the entire business himself—without clerical assistance.

He is totally blind, yet he writes all his own orders by type-writer for coal from the mine operators. takes the car numbers when the coal arrives; weighs the coal by the wagon-load for customers; gives the drivers properly filled out tickets, or makes out the receipts; receives money, counts it, and makes change; keeps a set of books; walks to and from his home without company, and in fact goes anywhere in Sewickley by himself and without a cane.

He is an accomplished musician. For eighteen years past he has been organist in the Presbyterian church, and he still takes every Friday afternoon from his business to rehearse the music for this church on Sabbaths.—*Pittsburgh Cor. Boston Globe.*

Sweet Use of Adversity.

The touch of adversity is just as necessary to bring out the best there is in some men as is the touch of the frost to reveal the glories of the autumn. What is more beautiful than a tree or forest flashing with all the colors of the rainbow! How delightful is a drive with these bouquets of nature lining the roadside! It is said these splendors of the autumn foliage are the sunshine which the trees have seen silently storing up during the summer when the sun has been shining upon them. Happy is the man who, in the sunshine of prosperity, has enriched his life with those graces of character which will shine out most beautifully when the touch of adversity or sorrow comes!—*Christian Inquirer.*

The relics of a sea washed beach are a strange study. Here you pick up a bottle—there a can—here a basket—there a box—here an old hat or cap—there a boot or shoe—here a great spike—there a bit of rope—here a piece of cabin gilding—there a bit of stout planking. The sea never rests. It brings in and it carries out. The beach one day is shelving. The next run of the tide cuts it full of runs and ravines. One tide brings in a splintered spar—the next carries it far out to sea. Where there is a great bed of oyster and clam shells to prevent you bathing today, there may be only smooth hard packed sand to-morrow.—Atlantic City Letter.

MISCELLANEOUS.

—A Port Huron, Mich., undertaker has a large tent for funeral purposes. Whenever he has a funeral on a rainy day he places the tent over the grave so that services may be held with but little inconvenience.

—A young man who presented a forged order to a Detroit theater manager swallowed the paper when the fraud was detected. No bad results followed, as he was a regular eater at the depot lunch counter.

—A little pamphlet called "Humor in Ye Sixteenth Century" shows that ye joker of that period borrowed a great deal of his wit from ye humorist of the Nineteenth century, without giving a particle of credit.—*Norristown Herald.*

—"Now," said the choir director, "sing the third stanza very softly. It is necessary to do so to bring out the spirit of the composition." "Hymn No. 96," broke in the clergyman, "omitting the third verse." And the singers enjoyed it more than the director.—*Exchange.*

—Shakespeare, who left his wife his second best bedstead, has been surpassed in indifference by a modern English testator, who bequeathed his wife one farthing, which he directed the executrix to forward to her by post, unpaid, as an indication of his disgust at the treatment which he had received at her hands, and especially in respect of the abusive epithets, such as "Old Pig," that he considered unjustified.

—Bees and homing pigeons recently raced between Hamm and Rhynern, Belgium. The towns are an hour apart, and the bet was that twelve bees would beat twelve pigeons in making the distance. Four drones and eight working bees well powdered with flour and released at the same instant with the pigeons at Rhynern. A drone reached home four seconds in advance of the first pigeon; the three other drones and one pigeon came in neck and neck, and the eight working bees came in just a trifle, about a length ahead of the ten pigeons

—In sinking large pits and wells in Nevada stratas of rock salt were cut through, in which were found imbedded perfectly preserved fish, which are probably thousands of years old, as the salt field occupies what was once the bottom of a large lake, and no such fish are now to be found in Nevada. The specimens were not petrified, but flesh, and all were preserved in perfect form, and after being soaked in water for two or three days could be cooked and eaten, but were not very palatable. After being exposed to the air and sun for a day or two, they became as hard as wood.

—A novel and very pretty spectacle was introduced at a Brooklyn swimming school exhibition. It was called the chariot race. Two little papier mache chariots were constructed and in each one was a four-year-old child. Harnessed to the chariots were two little boys, who swam over the course drawing their fair freight after them. The lads were about six years old, yet they made very good time and the winner was presented with a fine fishing pole. The children in the chariot enjoyed the race quite as much as the boys.

WAR CYCLORAMAS.

An Artist Explains How They Are Painted and Put Together.

The popular idea of how the war cycloramas, like the Battle of Gettysburg, Battle of Shiloh, Battle of Chickamauga, etc., are painted, appears very laughable to a person who knows how the work is accomplished. The Battle of Gettysburg and the Siege of Paris have been shown for several years on opposite sides of Hubbard court, in Chicago, and the stock paid large dividends. Each was advertised as the work of celebrated French artists, father and son, and the popular idea is that these gentlemen painted them. The fact is that, beyond a general outlining of the work, which was probably faithfully made after maps procured from authentic sources, and a general direction of the plan of the work, the artist-in-chief had very little to do with it. No man engaged in a battle sees it, and an accurate painting of two armies in combat is impossible. The general features only are known. For instance. In the Gettysburg painting there are accurately defined the roads, Crown Hill, Little Crown Hill, the wheat field in which a memorable charge was made, one or two buildings which were headquarters of the leading Generals, and, with reasonable accuracy, the topography of the country is depicted with excellent perspective. But the details of the battle, the actual clash of arms between this and that division or brigade, is left a good deal to the imagination. The artist-in-chief hires some men to put in the sky, other men to put in the trees and foliage, other men to put in the men in action. Attention is paid to developing this or that memorable incident, as, in the Gettysburg painting, the death of the cannoneer, the amputation of the soldier's limb beside the haystack. Take it all together it makes up a picture that is thrilling enough to arouse the most intense interest on the part of the old soldier. I remember standing by the side of a veteran at the Chicago picture of Gettysburg. He was explaining to a companion the details of the fight, in which he had borne an honorable part. "Say, Bill," said he, "at that stone wall there I lost my hat and, by gosh, if there ain't the old hat lying there yet!" In painting pictures of battles shrewd artists never fail to bestrew the field with lost hats, muskets and canteens.—*St. Louis Globe-Democrat.*

—A woman in Walton County, Ga., claims to have performed laparotomy upon the craw of a sick hen, taking out the organ, cleaning and washing it, and restoring it to its place; the stitches being afterward sewed up and the hen set free. The bird is said to have recovered.

His Last Law.

The last law signed by Kaiser Frederick was one permitting soldiers of the Guards to wear full beards instead of mustaches only.

A VALUABLE MEDICAL TREATISE.

The edition for 1889 of the sterling Medical Annual, known as Hostetter's Almanac, is now ready, and may be obtained, free of cost, of druggists and general country dealers in all parts of the United States, Mexico, and indeed in every civilized portion of the Western Hemisphere. The Almanac has been issued regularly at the commencement of every year for over one-fourth of a century. It combines, with the soundest practical advice for the preservation and restoration of health, a large amount of interesting and amusing light reading, and the calendar, astronomical calculations, chronological items, etc., are prepared with great care, and will be found entirely accurate. The issue of Hostetter's Almanac for 1889 will probably be the largest edition of a medical work ever published in any country. The proprietors, Messrs. Hostetter & Co., Pittsburgh, Pa., on receipt of a two cent stamp, will forward a copy by mail to any person who cannot procure one in his neighborhood.

Problems insoluble by the intellect are often solved through the wisdom of the spirit.

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An honest man is able to speak for himself, when a knave is not.

A "PUT AND CALL."

This is a funny phrase to the uninitiated, but all the brokers understand it. They use it when a person gives a certain per cent. for the option of buying or selling stock on a fixed day, at a price stated on the day the option is given. It is often a serious operation to the dealer, but there is a more serious "put and call" than this: when you are "put" to bed with a severe cold and your friends "call" a physician. Avoid all this by keeping in the house Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. The great cure for pulmonary and blood diseases. Its action is marvelous. It cures the worst cough, whether acute, lingering or chronic. For Weak Lungs, Spitting of Blood, Short Breath, Consumption, Night-sweats, and kindred affections, it surpasses all other medicines.

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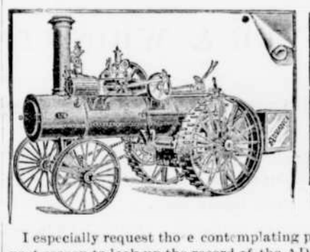

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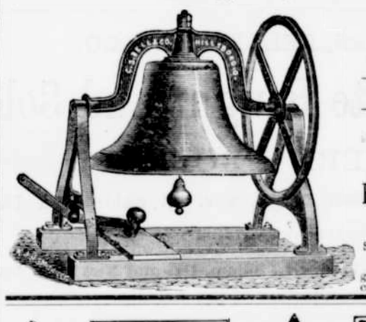

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