

PECULIAR KIND OF UMBRELLA

African "Bishop" Made Use of Prince Albert Coat When Rain Threatened Precious Loincloth.

"The Bishop" is like no other African. He has acquired the graces of the court of St. James and a surprising gift of repartee, using smiles and grunts chiefly. He is taller and older than any native in the neighborhood, which is the locality suburban to Yavut, Portuguese East. For years he has trekked with missionaries. He has carried their packs, bundled their beds and mosquito netting over miles of trail. His name was chosen by himself, in memory of Bishop Hartzell, with whom he traveled.

Yet the bishop is still a heathen—and proud of it. Among the other Africans in any given traveling party he is as conscious of his heathen distinction as Tom Sawyer's friend Jim was of his reputation for having seen evil spirits.

On a recent expedition a missionary saw the bishop for the first time and was particularly struck with the bishop's pride in his loincloth, a well-tailored trifle fashioned from monkey skin and built around a large brass ring. It began to rain. The bishop looked solicitously at the garment—much as a lady caught unprepared will look at her new spring suit when rain comes. The bishop had no umbrella, but from somewhere he produced a Prince Albert coat and buttoned it tightly about him. It served its purpose. The new loincloth escaped unscathed.—World Outlook.

ANCIENT AND MODERN NAMES

Writer Contends That Present-Day Appellations Lack the Euphony of the Olden Times.

Speaking of New England names, the genealogical columns of the Transcript are indeed a standing proof that the seventeenth and eighteenth century names possessed much more of snap, flavor and euphony than our twentieth century names possess.

Pick up the genealogical department at random—any day—and you will find such fine and resonant names as Betsey Keyes, Patty Holbrook, Susanna Gates, Polly Arnold, Darius Dowe, Prudence Rand, Thankful Sawyer, Thankful Newcomb, Hannah Pike, Deborah Clark, and Jonathan Rich—all of which are from one recent column. It is true that the same column contains names which are not exactly euphonic, and are indeed rather hard nuts to crack; these, for example: Leafy Bullard—a woman; whence the name of Leafy—Hatsel Higgins, Sparrow Higgins, Abigail Nash, Zerah Jewel, and Aley Lockwood. In the previous number of the same department are found the names Content Brown, Tabitha Holdredge, and Keturah Bassett.

The Nomad once encountered in an old book the name of Camilla Scudder. Was there ever a swifter name than that? And what about the name of Hepzibah Hathaway of New Bedford, found in Emery's book on the Howland Heirs?—The Nomad in Boston Transcript.

Sand—\$6,000 a Ton.

Wilmington, Del., has a dozen of the most expensive sand piles in the world. It costs \$6,000 a ton, says the Portland Oregonian.

The reason for this, and incidentally a reason for high-priced gloves, was revealed the other day by a prominent leather merchant.

Wilmington is the chief glazed-kid center in the United States. About 20 per cent of the raw skins entering the United States come from China and are imported at the rate of about \$1 a pound.

"What, then," asked the merchant, "would be more natural to the cunning celestial than to increase the weight of the skins by sprinkling sand on them?"

That is just what happens and the result is huge piles of sand at receiving plants here, where the hides are dried and prepared for manufacture.

Origin of Surnames.

No one can say with any certainty when the practice of taking a surname became general. The Greeks, Assyrians, Egyptians and other ancient peoples had no surnames; the later Romans had each one real personal name, to which they sometimes added a clan name for women, a family name or cognomen and a nickname or agnomen. The personal or Christian name was the only name recognized by early English law, surnames being words of description used to identify persons of the same name from such other. The Normans had introduced into England the habit of using surnames, but this was confined to the upper classes. By degrees even the common people began to be distinguished by names referring to personal characteristics, as Armstrong, rank or profession as Smith, father's name as Jackson, etc.

Fish and the Ancients.

The ancient Romans thought very highly of fish, and at big banquets brilliant fish were shown to the guests, alive, as a relish, then were served cooked after the soup. A prize was offered to any culinary artist who would invent a new marinade compounded of livers of the red mullet. Lucullus had a canal cut through a mountain so that fish might be transported more easily to the ponds in his gardens near Naples. Hortensius wept over the death of a pet turbot while the daughter of Drusus adorned a favorite fish with a collar of gold.

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LUCKY AND UNLUCKY DAYS

Study of Statistics Will Enable Almost Any One to Justify His Pet Belief.

Cold, hard statistics prove that the greatest number of premier awards for gallantry were won on Monday. No other day showing anything like the same record, though the much-maligned Friday stands out noticeably.

Which fact gives some color to the superstitions many people have about certain days of the week being lucky, while others are unlucky.

Tuesday seems to be the bad day of the week; calamities are far more common on that day than on any other day. Railway disasters, fires, street accidents—the record in each case is held easily by Tuesday. And it is the day most favored, too, by those who desire to put an end to their existence.

Saturday also has a bad reputation; its specialty is murders; and fully half the petty crime that is dealt with in the police courts occurs on that day. But probably that is because Saturday also holds the record for drunkenness.

There is nothing very distinctive about Thursday beyond the fact that it is the day upon which the birth-rate is highest; and Sunday is noticeable only for its low death-rate.

Wednesday is, above all the rest, the day of weddings. This applies to all classes, and nearly as many marriages are celebrated on that day alone as upon any three of the others.—Montreal Herald.

WANTED TO "GO IT ALONE"

Many Years Ago Missouri Declared Her Ambition to Become an Independent Republic.

Missouri once had intention of setting up as an independent republic all by herself. The Session acts, state of Missouri, 1838-1840, contain a memorial to the congress of the United States relative to the Santa Fe trade. It tells of an expedition of traders to Santa Fe in 1812 from St. Louis, though it is not specifically stated that they went over the Santa Fe trail.

The early Session acts of the Missouri legislature, starting in 1821, contain many interesting resolutions and memorials to congress on all manner of political and historical subjects. Incidentally the Missouri constitution of 1820 states with the promise that the citizens of the state agree to form and establish a free and independent republic by the name of the state of Missouri.

Missouri was one of the pivotal states in the history of this country. It was made such in the ancient fight in congress over the slavery question, which took up the admission of free and slave states and considered the balance thereof in congress. Missouri was also a pivotal state in yet another and larger sense—she was the jumping-off place for that wild and unknown country called the Wild West—the land west of the Missouri river. She made the midway point between the frontiersmen of Kentucky and those of the great plains, occupying a generation of history herself as a frontier commonwealth.

Lesson in Dietetics.

What bread needs to make it a perfect food—a perfect food is that which contains protein, carbohydrates, and fat in certain definite proportions—is something with fat in it. Hence bread "and butter," and bread "and dripping," and bread "and cheese." Pork and beans pair quite properly, because the beans supply the absent protein. When you eat beef and potatoes, or roast beef and Yorkshire pudding, the pairing makes a perfect food. The pairing of condiments is not a matter of taste alone. Cabbage is peppered because it was discovered that pepper discounted the excessive action of greenstuff on the bowels. Mustard goes with beef, but not with mutton, because mutton is much more easily digested than beef, and mustard is a first-class digester.—Montreal Herald.

Must Have Known What Was Coming.

"You remember the real estate men who used to advertise that buying your own home was better than paying rent."

"Yes."

"Well, they certainly knew what they were talking about, didn't they?"

Kentucky Shoot a Suicide.

Georgetown, Ky. — Cavanaugh Hughes had no idea of butchering a 100-pound pig, but the pig picked up a butcher knife in its mouth and ran. Hughes pursued, and when the pig dropped the knife the weapon hit the ground butt end first and the blade entered the pig's throat at the point where hogs are stuck for butchering. Hughes finished the job.

A Considerable Young Hero.

Covington, Ky. — James Bayless, aged five, is a little hero. When he cut his foot so badly he could hardly walk, he didn't want his mother to be worried, so he dragged himself to the hospital, where he fainted from loss of blood.

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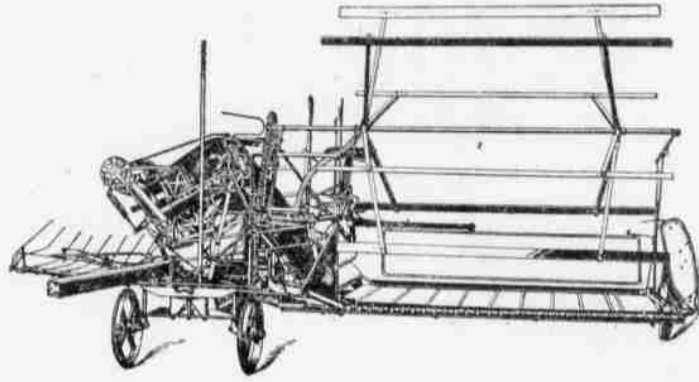
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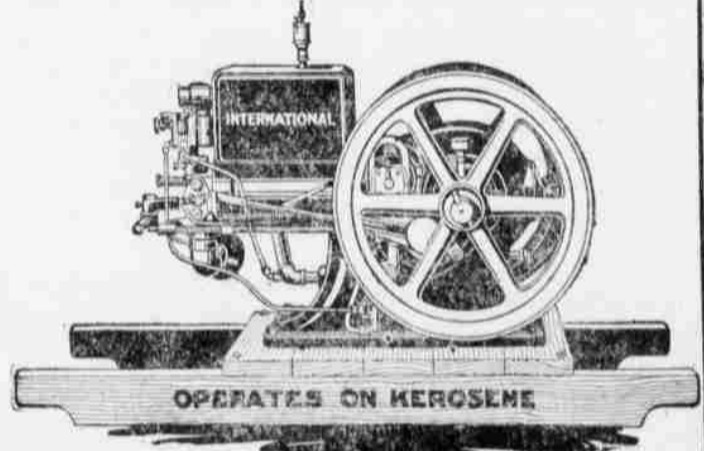
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