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FOUND A CONTINENT

Captain Nathaniel B. Palmer in Front Rank of Explorers.

Stonington, Conn., Was Birthplace of Brave Sailor Who Was the First to Discover Land in Great Antarctic Ocean.

American sailors have in more than one instance proven, while following their pursuits, to be explorers of the first magnitude.

This fact is recalled in the case of Capt. Nathaniel B. Palmer, a native of Stonington, Conn., a port that once supported a prosperous fleet of merchant vessels.

Captain Palmer, when twenty years old, discovered the Antarctic continent.

This fact is recalled in the case of Capt. Nathaniel B. Palmer, a native of Stonington, Conn., a port that once supported a prosperous fleet of merchant vessels. Today Captain Palmer's old home in the quiet seashore town of his birth is a place honored by resident and visitor alike, while a few miles from it, at Noonak, a famous old shippard, bearing still the name of Palmer, is perpetuating the traditions of the locality by turning out ships for the new merchant marine, under the construction program of the United States shipping board.

Captain Palmer was an active, strong, aggressive character. When as a lad of eighteen he made a voyage on the brig Herkula as second mate, it chanced that he was landed at the Falkland Islands to kill wild bullocks for meat, while his ship sailed away in search of an island of which the Yankee captains had heard vague stories, but had never seen.

In the sheets of the Herkula an Argentine vessel, the Espirito Santo, touched at the Falklands for water. Her captain told young Palmer that he was bound for a place where there were thousands of seals.

The Argentine sailed away before the Herkula came back; but on his vessel's return, young Palmer insisted that she put after the Espirito Santo, in hope of finding the strange island.

This was done, and after many days' sailing, the Yankee brig found not only the vessel she had followed, but islands to that time unknown in North America, the South Shetlands.

In 1821, Nathaniel Palmer, as commander of a Stonington sloop, the Hero, sailed again to the South Shetlands for seals. Finding the seals nearly exterminated there, he sailed farther and farther in search of new sealing grounds, stopping only when he sighted land not laid down on any chart. There were numerous islands, and beyond them a wild coastline and dim mountains.

One night the Hero lay becalmed in a thick fog that enveloped her like a blanket. After taking the deck at midnight for the middle watch, Captain Palmer was astonished when his man at the helm struck one bell, to hear the sound repeated twice. The same thing happened at two bells and so on through the watch. Superstition had not left the seas in those days, and the men of the watch deck were alarmed.

At seven bells the fog lifted a little, and two men-of-war were seen not more than a mile away. After the United States ensign was run up at the main peak of the Hero, one of the warships sent a boat alongside with an invitation from Commander Bellinghousen of the Russian navy for the captain of the American sloop to come on board his ship.

Captain Palmer went just as he was dressed—in sea boots and sou'wester. The scene was one of impressive contrasts when Captain Palmer stepped into the commander's luxurious cabin.

The polished, accomplished Russian commander insisted on sitting down to luncheon with the rugged young Yankee in sea boots, a meal that Captain Palmer found elaborate, after the fare on the Hero.

The Russian officer had been two years on a voyage of discovery. He examined keenly the chart and log-book of the Hero, and questioned Captain Palmer at length concerning the land he had found.

Finally the commander arose, placed his hand upon the young captain's head, and said: "I name the land you have discovered 'Palmer Land' in your honor; but what will my august master say, and what will my august master say, and what will I think of my cruising for two years in search of the land that has been discovered by a boy, in a sloop only a little larger than the launch of my frigate?"

Islands named for Peter and Alexander are still so designated on charts of that part of the Antarctic; but the land found by the boy captain of Stonington appears on every chart of that part of the world as "Palmer Archipelago."

It was nearly 20 years after Captain Palmer's discovery that the rim of the Antarctic continent was explored, by an Englishman, Sir James Ross, of the famous Erebus and Terror expedition.

Women Gain on Men.

Professor Phillips of Amherst college believes that the American women of today are physically much finer and stronger than the women of yesterday, and that if the women continue their physical improvement in the succeeding generations as much as they have in the last generation, it will not be many centuries off when the American women will be as physical equal and fit as the American men.

His Fate.

"If he ever gets to the front, Jim will be hit the first thing with a shell."

"What makes you think so?" "The law of natural affinity; he's such a put."

Far From Ideal.

"Tears, idle tears," murmured Fluddab. "That can't possibly allude to profits," declared Wood. — Louisville Courier-Journal.

WOULDN'T PART WITH 'CHAW'

Economical Seaman Decided to Wait Until Some Other Day to Have His Picture Taken.

If there is a general impression that America is slow to fall into the routine of economy and conservation the belief has not impressed itself upon a veteran photographer to seamen, whose curbstone studio is somewhere along the river front, writes a New York correspondent of the Pittsburgh Dispatch. Recently he had a hard five minutes with a Yankee subject, and he decided that certain traits of the Scot are developing in these United States. The photographer pined the man of the sea rolling along the street and besought him to have his picture taken, assuring him that the loved ones at home are not to be forgotten and that these days a striking pictorial memento is of especial value. The seaman, just off his vessel, stopped. He was a very grumpy seaman, but one likely to have funds, somehow, and so the photographer was at great pains to get him suitably posed and ready for the permanent record of his afternoon appearance. The last detail had been arranged and the seaman was standing flatly and determinedly against a fence when the camera man started to press the bulb. "Wait," said the subject, getting out of pose. "I'll be here for a week and I'll see yer again for a picture." "Well, why not now?" "Chaw," answered the economical seaman, "I got a chaw of terbacceh in me face today. I'll be along agin toward the end of the week—some day when I ain't got a chaw in me mouth."

HAS ONLY IMPULSE TO RUN

When Under Influence of Fear, Horse Has No Other Idea Save That of Blind Flight.

It was pathetic to see the terror of London horses when the tank passed through the city recently, writes a correspondent. Many of them sighted the new-fangled contraption at a distance and stood with ears pricked forward, eyeballs starting and nostrils distended, and had to be held and screened until it passed by. It was, of course, the same in the early days of motoring, but despite his tendency to panic the horse is intelligent if given a chance. When bicycles were novelties—an acquaintance tells me—his horse, in a Cheshire country district, showed great fear until a bicycle was one day brought to him and held beneath his nose so that he could inspect it in detail. He never minded them afterward. According to Romanes, the horse "is the only animal which under the influence of fear loses the possession of every other sense in one mad and mastering desire to run." This pathetic falling was utilized by our men in the recent advance on Cambrai, when at one point, it is recorded, a squadron of cavalry dismounted and stampeded their horses, which fled panic-stricken in the darkness toward the enemy lines, and so drew the German fire.—Manchester Guardian.

"Uncle Sam."

The popular term "Uncle Sam," as applied to the United States government, originated in Troy and Greenbush, N. Y., during the war of 1812-14. Elbert Anderson, Jr., one of the contractors supplying the army of the north with provisions, in October, 1812, advertised for proposals for pork and beef to be delivered to him during the first four months of the following year in New York, Troy, Albany and Waterford. Among those who contracted to furnish him with beef, packed in barrels, were Ebenezer and Samuel Wilson, the latter familiarly called by Trojans "Uncle Sam." As the beef was delivered at Greenbush barracks from time to time the Troy soldiers referred to it as "Uncle Sam's" beef. The other soldiers, not knowing who "Uncle Sam" was, thought that the term was applied to the letters U. S. stamped upon the barrels by the government officials. Consequently it was not long before the term "Uncle Sam," meaning the United States, was in common use.

Japanese and Malays.

The Japanese hat resembles much the Malayan. So also does the Japanese umbrella. The ancient Japanese helmet was adorned with horns of animals. Similar helmets exist in the Malayan archipelago. The old-fashioned weapons of the Japanese police, used in particular for catching thieves, are still used by Malayan policemen. The custom of catching fish at night by torchlight prevails both in Japan and in the Malayan archipelago. An ordeal with boiling water, a special sort of football game, the popularity of cock fights and the custom of keeping singing insects in little cages are found both among the Japanese and Malays. All this, asserts a writer, speaks in favor of the descent of the Japanese from the Malays.

Small Patriot's Rebuke.

The other day I answered a knock at the door and encountered a small boy, who immediately tried to sell me a choice assortment of knitting needles.

"But, sonny, I don't knit," said I, thinking to close the matter. He looked at me reproachfully for a moment and then: "Lady, aren't you going to do anything for your country?"—Chicago Tribune.

Over the Telephone.

"I was never so insulted in my life," "Huh?" "Somebody asked me if I wanted a kiss by wire." "Well?" "As if when I spoke up he said he had the wrong number."

IS EASILY SCARED

Man Apt to Be Frightened by Little Things.

Many Get Stage Fright When Called Upon for a Speech, But Would Battle a Lion.

"I went to see Jim Smilax get married," said Loper, according to the Chicago News, "and he was a pitiable spectacle. He was all wilted, and the sweat ran off him in streams. Had he been in the hands of the executioner he couldn't have been scared worse. It's a queer thing. Smilax has more cool courage than any man I know, and he'd face a polar bear without displaying cold feet, but a little thing like getting married was too much for him."

"It certainly is a queer thing," admitted Gamboge, "and doubtless we'd have to go back to the stone age to find an explanation."

"Man is afraid of many things which shouldn't scare him for a minute. People who know me well must admit that I am no poltroon. Produce your Hyrcan tiger, your rugged Russian bear, and my arm nerves will never tremble. I have officiated as judge at a baby show and had a dozen disappointed mothers seething around me reaching for handfuls of my whiskers, and I was as calm as I am at this hour of going to press. I don't know what fear is in the ordinary sense; yet I can't face an audience and make a speech to save myself."

"I'd give a farm if I could rise easily and gracefully and take a fall out of the welkin when I am called upon for a few timely remarks. But when I get to my feet and look around upon a sea of expectant faces, my insides seem to give way and I feel faint and sick, and the next thing I know somebody is stooping over me with a palm-leaf fan, and somebody else is pouring ice water on me."

"Why should a man be afraid to stand up before his fellow citizens and turn loose his sentiments? Probably some ancestor of mine, backed in the interglacial times, was swatted over the head with a spiked club while discussing the living issues of the day at some crossroads schoolhouse, and the shock affected all succeeding generations."

"It is but a little while since dentistry was in the same class with blacksmithing. Men who are waxing old can remember when a visit to the dentist's office was something that appalled the stoutest heart. It was the last resort. A victim of toothache would suffer until the last limit was reached before he'd consent to have any dental work done, and no reasonable person can blame him."

"When I was young the village dentist manhandled me two or three times, extracting teeth with a hammer and cold chisel. My own boys have such a dread of the dentist that I have to get the police to help me when it is necessary to take them to his office. There is no apparent reason for it. The modern dentist makes tooth pulling a luxury. It is better than an outing in the woods."

"I suppose it will take several thousand years to educate the fear of dentistry out of the human race."

"About a million years ago a dog threw itself down in the grass and was bitten by a snake. Ever since then dogs have turned around several times before lying down. This fact may explain, in some measure, why Jim Smilax was scared at his wedding."

Russian Prisoner's Escape.

The record of escapes from war captivity has been claimed for a Russian prisoner who recently crossed the Dutch frontier in his twelfth attempt to escape. Three times he fled in the direction of Luxemburg, twice he made for Switzerland, on several occasions he took the road to Poland and again to Denmark, but in every case without success. This was the first time he had tried his luck in the direction of the Netherlands frontier, and after being two months and twenty days on the road success crowned his perseverance.

Migration of Caribou.

From Dawson, Yukon territory, Dominion of Canada, comes news of the migration of caribou, says the Christian Science Monitor. Great herds are in the vicinity of Forty Mile river and at various other points. The total number of animals moving southward in search of food is estimated at 1,000,000 head. It is characteristic of the time that the migration would hardly have been known outside of Yukon territory had it not been necessary to explain officially that occupancy of the roads by the caribou interfered with the carriage of the mails.

Knew How to Figure.

Lady—What will you charge me for the use of a horse and buggy for a few hours?

Liveryman—It will cost you two dollars for the first hour and one dollar for each additional hour.

Lady—Well, I'll use it for two additional hours. I've got some shopping to do and will not require it for the first hour.

Over the Telephone.

"I was never so insulted in my life,"

"Huh?"

"Somebody asked me if I wanted a kiss by wire."

"Well?"

"As if when I spoke up he said he had the wrong number."

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