## FAR AWAY STRANGERS.

AN ETHNOLOGICAL CONGRESS TO BE HELD IN NEW YORK.

Setting the Representatives-Difficulties Under Which the Agents in the Far East Labor in Engaging the Natives-To Outdo the Midway Show.



HERE is now on the way to this country a curious company of people who are to compose a grand ethnological congress which will be exhibited at the Madison Square Garden in New York in the spring. Of course an ethnological congress is no new thing.

It has been done before, it was, perhaps, the greatest attraction in its line at the World's Fair in the shape of the Midway Plaisance, but all these collections will be as nothing in comparison with the exhibition New York will be treated to ere many weeks.

The congress will consist only of representatives of uncivilized peoples from for-



eign countries. At least thirty, and probably forty, different nations and tribes will be represented. Just how many it is impossible to state at present, as the members of the coming congress have a very disagreeable habit of running away or dying before they can be fairly started on

Mr. Bailey has had this congress in contemplation for two years, although it has been a profound state secret in circus eircles all the time, and not a word has been made public about it until Mr. Bailey informed the New York Herald of the project the other day.

It is designed to take the place of the pect, le which for several years has been prominent feature of the show.



This statement will come as a big surprise to many who have come to look upon the glittering array of the ballet as a legitimate part of a circus. All that is done with for this season at least, however. In reply to a question why the spectacles were to be abandoned, he said !

"Because they are too far above the heads of the people and are not, any way, a proper adjunct to a circus. In New York they are all very well. Here they pay and are understood in the Madison Square Garden, but when they are given anywhere else under canvas they are, to

to put it mildly, unadvisable.' Agents are despatched to all parts of the



world every year by Barnum & Bailey. One makes Lendon a headquarters, another St. Petersburg and still another Ceylon, India. The London and St. Petersburg agents visit the capitals of Europe in the winter season in search of novel and attractive performers who may appear in the theatre or other places of amusement, and if found to be suitable for the circus negotiations are entered into the "act" secured; or the agents may discover rare animals or curiosities-anything, in fact, that may prove valuable in the circus line



that they see or hear about they endeavor to secure, sometimes taking long journeys to different countries.

An idea was conceived in the year 1887 by Mr. Bailey, long before the Midway Plaisance was thought of, that it would be both an instructive and valuable sight to add such a congress to the circus, and so it proved. The exhibition was so meritorious that, stimulated by its success, he determined upon doing it again for this year, but upon a broader, wider and more colossal scale and make it take the place of a spectacle.

To prepare it for this year, Mr. J. B. Gaylord was sent to India last March, as it



would take fully a year to secure representatives from the strange and savage tribes necessary, and Mr. George Starr was sent to Africa and Asia for others.

The manner of securing these people is eurious. Making some city a place of rendezvous, the agent proceeds on horseback to the part of the country he desires to go, then selecting some of the tribe, generally a married man with his family, as they are more easily handled, he opens up negotiations, tells his mission, what he proposes to pay them and what they will have to

This may turn out all right, but when they are told they are to come thousands of miles to this country-which they have never heard of - they almost run away

Other tribes, not so timid, sometimes show fight, thinking the agent's intentions are to carry them into slavery. All kinds

It is not what its proprietors say, but what Hood's Sarsaparilla does, that tells the story of its merit. Hood's Sarsaparilla Cures.

of evil things are attributed to the unfortunate agent, who in many cases goes in quest of these people at the risk of his

However, succeeding in getting a few of them, he returns to his base of supplies and intrusting the natives to the care of one of his assistants, he starts again the next week or menth to another distant country in search of other tribes, bringing the people back and placing them in charge with his assistants as with the others. Frequently by the time he has returned with the second or third contingent, the first will have become frightened by absurd stories they have heard and taken flight, so that another trip will have to be made to the country from where they were procured.

Time and again has this thing occurred. so that it was thought almost impossible to secure enough people to make a congress of them. But after exactly twelve months a large number have been secured.

There are Cossacks from the Czar's dominions, Amazons from Dahomey, Siamese, Mongolian and Tartar of the Buddhist religion: Singhalese, from the Island of Ceylon, of the Aryan race; Javanese, both Malay and aboriginal, who are Mohammedans; pure Malays, from the Island of Singapore; Klings, from Madras, India; Hindoos, who are low caste; Sikhs, from Punjaub, India; high caste Hindoos, and Bur-

mese, both Tartars and Aryans. Other nations and tribes represented will include Nubians, Algerians, Syrians, Esquimaux, Papuans, Australians, Samoans, Dyaks, New Zealanders, Todas, Afghans, Soudanese, Matabeles, Japanese, Sandwich Islanders, Polynesians, Polyandrous people, cannibals and boomerang casters. The natives will live in houses similar to



some cases where it is practicable the houses will be brought along entire, and when this is out of the question the material only will be brought and the houses built here. There will also be shown the agricultural and household implements and the weap-

ons of war and for the hunt peculiar to The following extracts from a letter written recently by Mr. Gaylord, in Singapore, to Mr. Bailey may prove interesting in that it shows just how the work of gathering the congress has been carried

"Enclosed find photos of some of the natives who are engaged for the 'Congress.' They will also constitute a 'Religious Con-

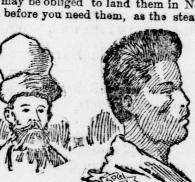


COSSACK.

SIAMESE. dooism, Mohammedans and Pagans. They are all couples, with some children. You will have the best collection of the different divisions of the Aryan, Mongolian, Tartar, Malayan and Papuan races ever

"We also have secured material for houses all ready to put up; also agricul-tural and domestic utensils, tools, boats, etc., and two jinrikshas. We are almost certain of getting the Australians and Dyaks, as we have made contracts with responsible and reliable parties who are sure to get them, as we pay them liberally if they succeed.

"I may be obliged to land them in New York before you need them, as the steam-



ers direct to New York are so irregular and not all of them will carry the natives. I shall try and have them at New York in

ample time to open. "The small elephant and ponies will go by the first safe steamer. I think the Hankow will take them, and furnish safe and warm accommodations. You know enough about ocean travel to know that it would be simply suicide to ship them on the open deck across the Atlantic in mid-

"We now have three small elephants, five pairs Bali buffaloes, one Indian gaur (tame), one axis cow antelope (tame), four



axis deer, four cassowaries, thirty black baboons or tailless monkeys and twenty small ponies. The young rhinoceros we lost. They could not get him down to the sea shore, so shot him. We are ex-pecting another soon. The steamer we expected to ship by came in late at night and left at once. The captain refused to remain long enough to get the animals on board. The steamer that followed had no safe place to put them.

"You can rest easy regarding the natives. You will have a much better lot than has ever been seen. The houses, in some cases, will have to be built, as the kind of houses, in some places could not be moved. We have got different kinds of bamboo and atap houses to have one house for each group of four. The houses will be small, six by eight feet and six feet high. They can easily be put up and taken down and will not occupy much

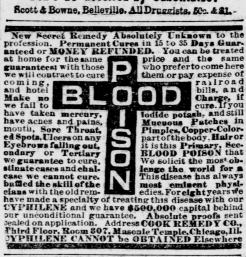
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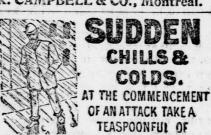


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