THE TRUE WITNESS AND CATHOLIC CERONICLE

Australian Aboriginals Who Track Criminals.

criminal fleeing from justice. These men are literally known as bloodin the world.

follow a man hunt with these trackofficial, but as a participant in_ad-venture. I say it has been "my good trailing with human bloodhounds is about as interesting, unusual and exciting a one as can be imagined. Once given the scent, a tracker with never failing success, unleas the criminal has had sufficient start to enable him to put to sea, in which case the block man can only follow him to the water's edge. The peculiar power of the block detectives was first discovered by the white surveyors in the antipodes through their extraordinary success in locating lost persons in the bush. An unerring instinct, coupled with finexplicably keen judgment, made it possible for them to take up a trail and follow it until the lost man was found, dead or alive, even though trailing with human bloodhounds is

and follow it until the lost man was found, dead or alive, even though the journey led through forests where the black pursuer never had been. Their usefulness as trackers of criminals was thus suggested, and they have since proved themselves invaluable to the police. So implicit is the confidence felt in them that when a black starts out on a man is the confidence felt in them that when a black starts out on a man hunt the officer who accompanies him merely follows in his wake, leading his own horse, and does not question him or, in any way inter-fere with him, no matter in what di-rection the guide may go, or how apparently reasonless or futile his method. The officer knows that the simple-minded aborigine possesses a cunning and sense of divination su-perior to his own trained intelliperior to his own trained intelli-gence, and so keeps a respectful si-

The most expert trackers are found in the State of Queensland, near the borders of New South Wales. They are animated by no feeling of ven-geance toward their quarry, and will travel faithfully for any number of miles, intent upon their task and unmindful of an obstacles or danger, seeming to take delight in the ac-complishment of their object and asking a reward ridiculously out of proportion to their labor — a few shillings, some tobacco or gewgaws sufficing them. Of the value of mo-hey they have no conception. Rum is their weakness. I have known of a tracker employed to locate cer-tain valuable trees for a timber man, traveling forty miles through a forest so dense that he had to cut his way with a tomahawk (a neces-The most expert trackers are found a forest so dense that he had to cut his way with a tomahawk (a neces-sary weapon down there for explor-ers), and being content with a re-ward of a botle of rum, while the timber man realized \$450 from the sale of the tree. They are submis-sive, courageous and alert. Their knowledge of English is very imper-fect a few broken words, sirns and for a few broken words, signs and gestures conveying their meaning. My first man hunt was with Char-He, a splendid specimen of aborigin-al symmetry, and muscular develop-ment

ment. I had business that took me to the Queensiand border, en route through the Nightcap Mountains, and was looking forward with little pleasure to the loneliness of the trip w'rn I was overtaken by an officer and Charlie, like myself on horseback, the officer having some wrist jewelry and a warrant for the apprehension of a cattle stealer. Now, cattle stealing in Australia is a scrious offense, the cattle laws there being most strict. The offender had two days' start of his pursuers, and was known to be a well season-ad bushman, who would resort to precidentia start of his offender to make the season of the season-de bushman, who would resort to

When a man commits a, crime in

Australia he knows that his chances

for escape are hopeless if a "track-sr" is put upon his trall within twenty-four hours thereafter. A tracker is a native black man, one of a tribe endowed with a marvel-ous instinct which enables them to run down to his hiding plgce may criminal fieling from justice. These men are literally known as blood-hounds, and their strange power is possessed by no other race of people.
Image: Strange Stran

to believe any human being had tried to travel, so slow would be his pro-gress. At no time could we ride, and gress. At no time could we ride, and with great difficulty got our horses to a clearing, where we made camp and rested. Tearing three huge strips or barks from the trees, Char-lie wrapped a blanket around him and lay on the concave surface of one for a bed and we did likewise. At daylight we took up the march, and by noon reached a bush-man's cabin. Here we had a meal, and tethered our horses, proceeding, by Charlie's advice, on foot.

by Charlie's advice, on foot

by Charlie's advice, on foot. That night we again camped in the forest, making a slim breakfast on the provisions brought with us. The fourth day found us hacking our way through underbrush peculiar to Australia, called "lawyers and bar-risters," because its thorns and brambles catch one at every turn. Once Charlie hesitated, turned back and struck off in another direction down an embankment, we plugging after him. after him.

What a wild chase that was ! What a wild chase that was! Two white men blindly following the apparently crazy course of a black fellow into places so remote that it would be impossible to find our way out of them alone. Such is the confidence in that country in the ability of a tracker. Charlie now crawled the greater part of the way on his hands and branches for signs of a freshly brok-en passage way for the fugitive.

en passage way for the fugit Every action betrayed his intents the fugitive upon his task. He was about ten feet ahead of us, when we heard him give a subdued excalamation of de-

catch white fellow quick!" he said, when we came up, and tri-umphantly pointed to a scrap of cloth hanging to a broken twig.

cloth hanging to a broken twig. After some four hours more of scrambling through the underbrush we reached a river, Charlie crouch-ing attentively along the ground un-ti, he came to the bank. There, in the damp earth, two footprints were plainly visible. "What are you going to do now?" asked the officer of Charlie. For answer Charlie leaved into

asket the onlicer of Charlie. For answer Charlie leaped into the river and struck out for the op-posite bank. The tide was rather strong and carried him down stream a bit, but he swam vallantly, while we sat, tigd, travel-stained and hungry, on the trunk of a fallen tree and watched his ebony wool bobbing along the water. Encorging bobbing along the watched his ebony wool bobbing along the watch. Emerging on the other side, he ran dripping

round. What clew could Charlie be ollowing now? Did he expect to ind his man in the sky?. Up went the black until thirty feet n the air. Here we noted that the nain trunk of the tree had been proken off years before, forming a rotch for the new branches that ad sprung up on either side. Then a most astonishing thing inppend.

Then a most astonishing thing happened. Reaching down into the hoflow of the half dead tree trunk, the track-er seized something, at the same time shouting to the officer below : "Bose! bose! I catch white fellow! He play 'possum!" Out of the opening appeared a man's bead, and a more miseralle object I have never seen. He was trousled, dirty, gaunt, hall starved. I have said that a tracker always runs down his game. This time he certainly ran it up. Charlie's skill at ringtailed 'possum hunting help-ed him out, for very often when a mative has killed his game with a boomerang the animal is caught in a tree branch and the hunter has to climh for it in the manner I have described. described

described. Charlie got us safely back to the cabin, and later on I bade him and the officer good-by. The cattle thief, of course, paid the penalty of his crime. He said that, knowing a tracker would be put upon his trail, he had hoped to give him the im-pression that he had drowned while swimming the river.—San Francisco Examiner. Examiner.

RISKS OF LABOR,

Much has been written of the risks of capital and its timidity in seekng investment; and workingmen are often warned not to do this thing or that, as it might cause capital to flee away, leaving the laborer to starve for lack of employment. In talking of the risks of capital, it is well to also keep in mind the risks of labor. No occupation is without its special danger, and sometimes behind the most innocent looking employment there lurks a deadly en-emy to the worker's heafth. The life insurance companies of the world recognize these facts, and they have at great expense collected facts showing the fatality of all oc-cupations. And this labor is not yet completed. The actuaries of Am-erica are now, it is said, engaged in often warned not to do this thing

erica are now, it is said, engaged in an effort of magnitudinous propor-tions to collect and tabulate exact

tions to collect and tabulate exact statistics on the subject. Men with no occupations are plac-ed in a class by themselves and an exclusive average thus obtained. It is found that so many men out of every thousand with a regular occu-pation die every year. The average occupied man is then said to die with this average regulation. Sanctice

occupied man is then said to die with this average rapidity. Specific occupations are then grouped, and the average death rate in each of them is computed. Latest compilations made show that the cutlery manufacturing trade is exceedingly dangerous. In every such factory the air is laden with metal dust caused by the grinding of the steel, and this being carried in-to the lungs, produces asthma, and eventually consumption. The grindto the lungs, produces asthma, and eventually consumption. The grind-ers bending over their work inhale such quantities of the dust that they rarely live aboys the age of 40, while a needle polisher, who be-gins to work at his trade at 17 may feel that he is unusually fortunate if he is alive at 37. All metal trades, in fact, are very hazardous. Phthisis or tubercular affections, and respiratory diseases are the principal penalties of these

are the principal penalties of these pursuits. Records show that filemakpursuits. Records show that illemak-ers are dying more rapidly year by year. Files are now being manufac-tured in much greater abundance than formerly, and the mixture of metalls from which they are made is more injurious to the human system when inhaled than was formerly the case. Filemakers are beginning to suffer from chronic lead poisoning, a disease which in former years they were neves troubled with at al. The disease which in former years they were neves troubled with at all. The

use a newly invented kind of phos-phorous which reduces the number of fatal cases to a minimum. Never-theless, a large number of workers in these factories succumb to this trouble every year, and insurance companies are extremely loath to insure the life of any man in a match factory. The symptoms of "phossy jaw" are a crumbling away of the jawbone, this ending ultimately in total paralysis and death. Dyers, bleachers and all who labor

Dyers, bleachers and all who labor in factories where chemicals are largely used seldom reach their for-tieth year. The chlorine, used so ex-tensively by dyers and chemists in general, attacks the lungs and burns them away gradually but surely. Those occupied in making chlorine gas are well aware that if they con-tinue in that employment they can-not expect to live more than 10 years. Hatters, shoemakers and tail-ors show very high mortality from phthisis. Dyers, bleachers and all who labor

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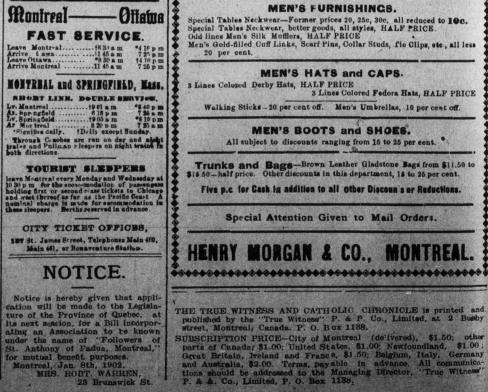
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phthisis. Besides these risks incident to the occupation there is always hanging over the worker, especially in high buildings, the danger of fire; or, there is the equally frequent danger of an explosion that will in one mo-ment wipe out a score of lives. Thanks to the factory inspection, ac-cidents are decreasing. Verily the risks of capital does not compare with the risks of labor.—Detroit News-Tribune. phthisis.

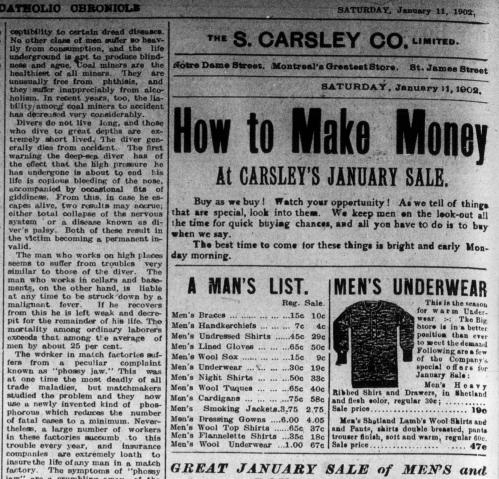
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NOTES

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takings, are furnishe Each parish will space, which will, be calendar on the paris other name that t consider suitable. We idea in view for man ing that it would be mutual help to and the "True Wi taining their respect well as furnishing the with a fund of inform be valuable and inter necessary that t this calendar s for not later than Tues wock. We cannot do planation of the pro pastors to the fin which appears under

"St. Patrick's Paris on page 5. It is hardly necessa extremely useful and each parish and its : weekly summary may well worth the trifling ed each week to p serves in every respect poses of a distinct pu out its responsibilities ences. We have, no do that the undertaking the attention of the pa

show good results. THE MAYORALTY. not the slave of circ need not be." John E

The above lines are we reflect upon the attempt of Irishmen standard bearer for and honored office of trate of Montreal. So: plain of ostracism : otry at the hands of c of the community. Le est, and say that if of acts of bigotry really of result of our own su lack of confidence and kin. The surrender as citizens in this year

election is an evidence

UNSELFISH MEN .contributor "Crux," d topic in his contributi All that he writ need of a greater disp ishness in the ranks o gionists who are the p wealth which is measur and cents is true. But pects too much. Men in and, in fact, in all clas write their cheques fo cannot be expected to such a luxury as selfish WOMAN'S RIGHTS .-

t once did the black raise his from the ground. Several times

an end. Our game had vanished into space. Thurlie- dashed into the thicket and hastily secured a strong, pliable vine used by the natives in scaling. This he threw about the tree, inclos-ing his own body, and fastened it by wreathing it together, holding the ends with h,s hands. Working this loop as a sort of lever, he began to seale the tree. We looked on in astonishment. Not a human being was in sight above

and if on the circle devices in the second devices in the

cent. The occupation of the miner is dangerous both from its liability to accident and from his inevitable sus-

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