# Missing Links.

THE rental of London is estimated t £40,000,000, of which two-fifths is paid for sites alone.

A PERFORMING dog which has beer trained to play a piano is to be seen at the Alhambra, London. THERE are now in the United Kingdom 177 women doctors and 120

women members of school boards. THERE is a general feeling in scientific quarters in favor of a national memorial of the late Mr. Huxley.

GREAT improvements have lately been carried out at Frogmore Lodge, which is officially regarded as being part of Windsor Castle.

FROM London to Aberdeen, a distance of 504 miles, is now covered in eleven hours by a train of the London and Northwestern Railway. THE British Government have

hought the medals and orders won by Nelson at Trafalgar. These relics besome the property of the nation. NELSON'S old flagship, the Victory, 1s still in good order, and has just been

turned to account in the reception of the Italian fleet at Portsmouth. IT IS stated by officials of the United States mint that over 12,000,000 of the

big copper cents were lost during the

60 years they were part of the coinage. THE cats of the Isle of Man are destitute of tails as if they were guinea pigs. It has never been accounted for. but in spite of being unscientific it is

THAT grand old man of the British fleet. Admiral Keppel, born in the same year as Mr. Gladstone, and six months earlier, is writing his reminis-

" MISS MARNIE MACKENZIE, daugh-

ter of Sir Alexander Mackenzie, principal of the Royal Academy of Music, is likely to make the stage her pro-THIS is an age of paper as well as of

electricity. The paper mills of the United States have now a capacity of over 5,000,000 pounds a day, most of it wood pulp. DR. NEWMAN HALL, the distin-

guished preacher, has entered upon his 80th year. He was born at Maidstone in 1816. He is still almost as active as a young man. THE Sault Ste. Marie Canal, between Lakes Huron and Michigan, now car-

ries 20.000,000 tons a year, or twice the weight that passes through the Suez Canal annually. BOSTON is to have a new hotel, which is to cost \$3,500,000, and beside

which the "great hotels of Chicago and New York will sink into comparative insignificance," the Boston newspap-AT THE Cork assizes on the 16th ult. two privates of the Tenth Royal Hussars were sentenced to six months' im-

ed the family vault of Sir George Colthurst, owner of the Blarney Castle. THE Right Hon. David Plunkett. who has failed to be elected a member of Parliament for Dublin University, is a younger brother of Archbishop Plunkett, of Dublin. The family is one of the oldest and most aristocratic in

prisonment each for having desecrat-

THE Prince of Wales dislikes a dinner to be served slowly, for he is a quick eater. One hour and five mintutes is the limit for a full number of courses. His brother, the Duk of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, on the contrary, is slow at his meals.

NOT all the admirers of the beautiful nasturtium have given thought to the derivation of the name. Nasturtium is from two Latin words, meaning "nose" and "to torture," in allusion to the tendency of the pungent blossom to cause him who bites it to make a wry

A CASE of prolonged hiccoughing in an old man of 78, which has lasted twelve days, was cured by an Irish doctor lately, after he had exhausted every remedy he could find, by giving the patient some strong snuff. set him to sneezing and stopped the hiccoughs at once.

FIVE shilling fine was paid by the first man to use a tricycle cab in London, propelled by a man in front and another behind. A crowd collected, blocking the street, so the police arrested him, and an alderman held that he was obstructing traffic, imposing a fine so low that he could not appeal.

NELLIE NEWKIRK, a young lady residing near Big Prairie, O., has a cancer on her tongue, produced, so her physicians say, by chewing gum of the rubber variety. She chewed a gum that could be drawn out of the mouth and let snap back, and the constant snapping produced an incurable cancer.

AN ALBERT medal has been awarded to Mr. Hereward Hewison, of Newcastle, New South Wales, for saving his brother from a shark last year. His brother was seized by the while swimming, when Mr. Hewison swam to him and fought the shark till it bit off the arm at the elbow, releasing its prisoner. He then swam ashore, pushing his brother before him.

NO ONE ever sees a bed in any of the bedrooms at Mme. Patti's Craig-y Nos Castle until the evening, and what might be taken to be a handsome wardrobe with a mirror is really a bedstead. The housemaids, after making the bed in the morning, touch a spring and the bed sinks down into the frame of the bedstead, and is drawn up so as to give it the appearance of a ward-

A FRENCH geographical paper proposes to divide the face of the clock into ten hours instead of ten minutes and a hundred seconds each. This is to make time uniform with the decimal eystem or count by tens. The count by twelves which now shows on the face of the clock survives from the earliest times—probably long before the invention of letters.

A SCIENTIFIC paper discusses seriously the alleged discovery by Prof. Conn, of butter bacillus-that is to say, of a bacillus producing fermentation in milk by which the quality of the but-ter is improved. The statement is reasonable and the facts may be as allexed, but it is not always easily possible to distinguish the reality of current science from its romance.

A MONUMENT commemorating the 100th anniversary of the annexation of Nice to France is to be unveiled at Nice in February in the presence of President Faure. Nice having been annexed for a few years during the revolution, the French theory is that it had ever since belonged to France, though wrongfully held by Sardinia. and that the cession of 1860 was merely

of the plains believe that thunder is work of 4,0009 men for 1,000 days, or caused by the flapping of the wings of about three years. This would include, caused by the flapping of the wings of an immense bird which flies acoss the sky, bringing the storm. All the ideas of savage tribes are based on such simple conceptions of nature. The ideas of young children are ofter identical with savage myths, as a result of minds on the same plane of development attempting to explain the same thing.

The next North Carolina Legislature will be asked to legalize the marriage of a prominent architect of Raleigh and a half blood Cherokee maiden. The latter is highly educated and accomplished, was the official stenographer of the last state convention of teachers, and her father was a member of the Legislature. The North Carolina law prohibits marriage of a white to persons of Indian blood of the third generation, and to avoid this they were married outside the State, but now it is discovered that they would be subject to prosecution if they returned to

THE two new United States battle ships, of which plans are now being drawn, are not to cost over \$4,000,000

of course, all the time spent in preparing all the material of all kinds-as in digging the coal to heat the furnace to make the iron and steel for nails and armor and guns, felling the trees to make the lumber, digging the mineral for the paint, planting and cultivating the beans for maxing the oil, and so on. So that probably the estimate above is well within the actual cost of

labor-time required. A gigantic undertaking, the bridging over Polk's Strait, separating the had been elected assemblyman, while Island of Ceylon from the mainland of India, is seriously proposed by the Ceylon Government. The strait is fortyone miles broad at its narrowest point, double the width of the English Channel, but is very shallow, in many places only six feet deep. The islands, reefs and channels in it have been recently surveyed, and the cost of works, extending over 61 miles, including the Pambam Channel and the Adam's Bridge reef, is estimated at 28,000,000 rupees. The ends will be connected by 145 miles or railroad, with Colombo, the great harbor of Ceylon, on the one side, and by 90 miles of road, with Madura, the nearest point of the Indian each. Turning labor into time at \$1 a Railroad, on the other. If narrow day, the census average, this would gauge is used this can be cone for 11,make the maximum cost of each the | 000,000 rupees more.

## Wild "Desert Ships"

Solemnly Stalking on the Sandy Plains of Arizona-Camels Which the United States Government Imported at Great Expense Wandering About the Desert Wastes.

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how many people in this country have ever heard that there are camels running wild in it-camels which the Govwith no end of fuss and feathers, and which, after using awhile, it turned out to die on the plains of Arizona. Crossing the Colorado desert the passengers on the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad occasionally catch a glimpse of strange, wierd creatures, neither fish, flesh nor fowl, stalking solemnly in the hot sandy distance—a boding apparition, enough to scare a timid tourist into fits. And on asking what this terrible beast, which looks as if it might have dropped straight out of the Apocalypse, may be you are told that it is a camel, a descendant of the herd transported from the orient during Jefferson Davis' term as Secretary of War under Pierce's administration to do the work of horses and mules in the great west

DERELICTS OF THE DESERT. A military man, an officer from Fort Wingate, who chanced to be a fellowtraveler crossing the desert, gave me an interesting history of these "desert ships," which have become mere derelicts on this vast sandy sea. Back in 1850, when California was an El Dorado and when the plains were dotted with emigrant trains, Gen. Beale, who was stationed at Fort Yuma and who marked the frightful sufferings and tremendous death rate of mules and horses, conceived the idea of importing camels from the east to carry stores across this awful waste of country. Gen. Beale, then a young man, wrote Jeff-erson Davis, Secretary of War, and advanced his arguments in favor of buying camels for this purpose. Secretary was pleased with the novel idea, and soon after a commission was sent out to Arizona to discover the uses to which these animals might be put in military service. A favorable report was made, and when the Secretary made his next report to Congress he asked for an appropriation to buy camels in Egypt and Arabia for the

use of the War Department. Mason, of Mason and Slidell fame, was on of the staunchest advocates of this measure, and in 1853 a bill was passed appropriating \$30,000 for this purpose. Major Henry Wayne was selected to go to the east to buy the camels and to bring them to New York on a naval stores ship. Major Wayne first visited London and Paris in order to get all possible information upon the subject of camels from military men who had served in eastern campaigns. He consulted with camel experts and visited zoological gardens where the animals were kept in order to thoroughly acquaint himself with their habits, diet and care. Then he went on to Tunis, where the Bey, learning his errand, presented the United States Government with two dromedaries, that its agent might have an object

lesson as quickly as possible. From Tunis the camel ambassador went to Constantinople. In Egypt the camel question became a burning issue in the Khedive's Cabinet. As it was against the law to sell camels out of Egypt, a present of several fine creatures was made by the Egyptian Govvernment to that of the United States. This number was augmened at Smyrna, Asia Minor, and shipped to In-diola, Texas, thence taken to Camp Verde, where they were kept several years. Then they were taken overland o various Texan points, each carrying Government stores of about bounds. From 1857 to 1861 some of these camels were kept at the United States States forts at Bowie and El Paso. When the civil war broke out, these orts were deserted and the camels alowed to roam away. They wandered into the mountains and deserts, making their way to the region of the Colorado river, and even into southern California and the Gila country. Some got down into Mexico at least 50 miles below the territorial limits, where the Indians killed and feasted on a number during their fete days

CAMEL DIPLOMACY. All of this history, my military friend told me, is set forth in the Government reports at Washington, and forms the most amusing reading. The officials concerned in the great camel deal appear to have had a very important conception of their parts and to have given most laborious and minute reports of all their movements. Jefferson Davis himself in his reports and instructions applied his mind to the consideration of the camel question with the same seriousness which would have characterized a diplomatic discussion.

He gave very particular instructions to the Government agent when and where to buy, recommending Damaseus and Palmyra as the best shopping districts for camels and stating that bargains in dromedaries undoubtedly could be obtained in Kurdistan. He directed Major Wayne to call upon Minister Buchanan in London and explain the importance of his mission. In addition to all this voluminous instruction the Secretary of War wrote a valuable treatise on the subject of camels in relation to military employment. Was there ever anything fun-nier? The Secretary of War of this great republic engaged in writing a pamphlet, "What I Know About Dromedaries," and gravely submitting it to be placed among the archives of the

Government! Major Wayne took himself quite as seriously as did the Secretary. He called upon Minister Buchanan in London and Minister Mason in Paris, and don and Minister Mason in Paris, and THE Chevennes and other Indians mighty subject of dromedaries, giving

Kingman, A. T., July 31 .- I wonder | advice and introductory letters galore to the agent of the United States Govvernment on his quest for camels. All these attentions were duly chronicled and reported to the Secretary of War ernment imported at great expense and at Washington, together with a great with no end of fuss and feathers, and mass of correspondence which the major held with various missionaries in the east on the nature, manners, food, care and breeding of the camel. He paid from \$50 to \$1,000 for the beast and engaged Arabs to care for them on the voyage to this country. The great pains, the enormous expense, and above all the amusing interest taken by these Government officials seem to the practical, matter of fact Yankee of today extremely absurd, and when one considers that all this fuss was to the end that a few bony old beasts might wander across the wilds of Arizona chewing the bitter end of the cactus and alarming the transcontinental tourist, the whole affair grows absolutely ridi-

FINALLY BECAME ELEPHANTS. When the camels were finally distributed among various western army posts, the owners found they had "an elephant on their hands." The creatures were afflicted with strange and incomprehensible diseases with which the western horse doctor could not likely to taste of her wine. The kiss-wrestle. Horses did not like them and ing is carried on everywhere—in the became restive when stabled with the street, in the taverns and in private ugly eastern visitors. Even the host-lers took violent dislike to the poor veiled in obscurity. Some say it dates lers took violent dislike to the poor beasts, as the labor of harnessing and packing them was onerous, and they were everywhere unwelcome, and gradually fell into disuse.

In 1861 the herd numbered nearly 50 Some of these were in 1862 taken to the Comstock mines for use in the desert, and a train of fifteen of these beasts was employed in packing salt from Sand Springs, in a desert of salt and alkali about 100 miles east of Virginia City. Wagons, too, were used in the transportation of salt from these springs, and soon with the aid of prairie schooners crowded out the business of the camels. They were then sold to Mexicans, who used them in packing wood down the mountains. Knocking about among the mountains, the wretched beasts soon became gaunt skeletons. They were finally sold to a ranchman on the Carson river, who turned them out to roam at their fancy and to feed on the prickly shrubs of the desert, upon which, as they were somewhat like those of their native country,

the animals thrived and increased. Next they were used by miners for packing ore from the mountains to the mills in the valleys. But soon the burro, the slow-footed, easy-going "canary bird" of the Rockies, superseded them, and the entire drove was sent adrift in the wilderness. Today the camels are wild, hoary with years, and their hides have assumed a leathery appearance. There are only a few left now in the extreme southern portion of Arizona, and members of a recent boundary commission reported that they saw two camels on the line between Arizona and Mexico near Sonora.

In the Gila country, where these animals roamed at one time, is the greatest souvenir left by the aboriginal races of North America-an immense network of prehistoric irrigating canals. Their age is entirely a matter of conjecture. Only one tradition exists among the present Indian tribes concerning them, and that is of their destruction INDIAN TRADITIONS.

In 1542 Coronado came from Spain eking the seven cities of Cibola, expecting to wrest glory and riches from their conquest, as had Pizarro in Peru and Cortez in Mexico. He found these ruins of canals, but could learn nothing of their age or builders. The Indian tradition tells that once great valleys of the Salt and Gila rivers were peopled by a dense and prosperous nation that excelled all others in the building of vast palaces and the manufacture of stone implements, but mostly by changing the terrible desert into a mighty garden by putting into it the waters of great

This people grew and multiplied so that all other tribes envied and feared them, and the dwellers on the moun tains began to plot how they could seize this paradise in the valleys for themselves. So the warriors of the hills descended upon the peaceful inhabitants of the valleys, and those who

were not killed fled southward. Soon after great storms came, and the rivers burst through and destroyed the vast canals. No longer could the conquerors water their fields. Their grain burned and died, and the trees grew parched and withered until their leaves frumbled in the hand. Then they sent their swiftest runners to the south to find the people they had driven out and bring them back that the secret of repairing these great irrigating ditches might be learned.

A FEW DEAD BODIES. But of all the host that had been driven from the valleys the runners could only find a few dead bodies on the arid plains where the unfortunate victims had perished from hunger and thirst. Then the tribes from the hills knew that they had done wrong, and that the anger of the Great Spirit burned against them, and they endeavored to return to the mountains, but only a few succeeded, as those who were sick and faint perished by the

This is the only legend of these prehistoric ruins. Curious fact it is that

WHY NOT?

A young lady residing near Belfast. in Ireland, was visiting some relatives in New Jersey a few winters ago. She pretended to be very much puzzled over the democratic state of affairs in the republic. The village baker was a justice of the peace, and a shoemaker the state senator from that district was a coarse, illiterate man-none of them by any means gentlemen, as she understood the word. She went skating with the children one afternoon, and after her return, told a friend that on the pond the butcher's boy had greeted her, and offered to assist her

in putting on her skates.
"You didn't allow him to do so, did" you?" demanded her friend, a little indignantly.

"Oh, yes," she said, "and skated with him. too. I didn't know but he'd be President of the United States some day, and I didn't want to offend him."

LIVING STONES IN FALKLAND. The most curious specimens of vegetable or plant life in existence are the so-called "living stones" of the Falkland Islands. Those islands are among the most cheerless in the world, being constantly subjected to a strong polar wind. In such a climate it is impossible for trees to grow erect, as they do in other countries, but nature has made amends by furnishing a supply of wood in the most curious shape imaginable. The visitor to the Falklands sees scattered here and there singular-shaped blocks of what appears to be weatherbeaten and moss-covered boulders in various sizes. Attempt to turn one of these "boulders" over and you will meet with a surprise, because the stone is actually anchored by roots of great strength; in fact, you will find that you are fooling with one of the native trees. No other country in the world has such a peculiar "forest" growth, and it is said to be next to impossible to work the odd-shaped blocks into fuel, because it is absolutely devoid of "grain," and appears to be nothing but a twisted mass of woody fibres.

ROUMANIA'S KISSING FESTIVAL. Helmagen, a Roumanian country town of 1,200 inhabitants, holds its annual fair on the feast of St. Theodore On this occasion the place swarms with newly married brides from 60 to 80 villages in the district; widows who have taken fresh husbands remain at home. The young women, in festive attire, and generally attended by their mothers-in-law, carry jugs of wine enwreathed with flowers in their hands. The Roumanische Wochenschrift says they kiss everyone they meet, and afterwards present the jug to his lips for a The individual thus regaled bestows a small gift on the fair Cybele. Not to partake of the proffered wine is regarded as an insult to the young wife and her family. She is therefore, reserved toward strangers, and only kisses those whom she thinks back to the time when the Turks made frequent raids into Transylvania and carried away all the young women they could lay their hands on. Such of them as contrived to escape from captivity, happening to return to Helmagen at the time of the fair, kissed their friends and relatives, and even strangers who congratulated them on their wonderful deliverance.

CURIOUS LAWS. The old law books are curious reading, and give some funny ideas of what kings and parliaments thought they

Henry VIII., for example, passed "An act for the abolishing of diversity of ppinion in certain articles concerning Christian religion." It staggers one to think of how many acts would be required today "to abolish diversity of opinion" in religious matters. It is not generally known in Scot-

land-the home of football-that it is still illegal to play football. An act passed in 1424, and never repealed, says "No man shall play at football, under a pain of fifty shillings." But Scotch ladies with a tendency to over-dressing are in no better position.

Their over-dressing is still illegal. By an act of James II. restriction as to dress is laid down, and only the wife of a baillie or alderman is allowed to wear "clothes of silk, scarlet gowns." No woman is to come to kirk or market with her face mussaled (or veiled), that she may be known. In the reign of George III. a bill was

introduced for the improvement of the Metropolitan Watch. In this "watches are compelled to sleep during the day."
When read in committee a gouty M.
P. said: "Let this act apply to members of the House, that my gout trouble me no longer by making me sleepless in the night." Temperance reformers will be de-

lighted to hear that James I. passed an ct "that no man be found in taverns drinking after the strike of nine. Not long since a vendor of sweets was ed under an act of Charles II. for selling a bun and lemonade on Sun-day, and was fined—a farthing.

In Scotland there is also a law dealing with drunkenness. A nobleman, if he wished to get drunk, had to pay Scots. A servant could get gloriously drunk at a fine of 20 shillings or 24 hours in the stocks. In this the law was a respecter of persons. If, however, lord or servant absented himself from the kirk, the fine was £1 or 24 hours in

DISEASE FROM THE REALMS OF SPACE.

The great epidemics which have rav-

aged cities and devastated countries have contained an element of mystery. The people of the Middle Ages could find no answer for the question, whence comes the dread plague? And the present germ theory only leads to the further query, what is the origin of the germs? A recent writer in a medical journal answers with the interesting and somewhat startling theory that epidemics are not of earthly origin, but come from the realms of space. In the thousands of tons of meteoric matter and cosmic dust which, it is generally admitted, are annually precipitated upon the earth, he says that myriads of life-germs have been observed Darwin describes a shower of strange organisms; and curious yellow snow, which has fallen in various parts of the world, has been found to be literally alive with bacteria. The writer is of the opinion that there is a con-nection between these showers of germs and epidemics, both those of a local character, such as diphtheria, and the great scourges of the past. It has been observed, he says, that peculiar clouds have on several occasions accompanied plagues. The famous "Black Plague" of the fourteenth century, which carried off nearly 50,000,000 victims, came with great suddenness, and spread much faster than the lines of travel could have carried it. Concerning it an old chronicle says: "The death.

den cessation and not infrequent extinction might be attributed to the earth swinging out of the range of the meteoric dust carrying the germs, which not finding suitable environment on the earth cease to multiply, and so die.-Demorest's Magazine.

CURIOUS EFFECTS OF MEMORY. It would afford material for an entire paper to study defects of memory and to describe some of the curiosities of thinking which result from such defects. A writer in the Popular Science Monthly says that he lately saw a business man of keen mind and good general memory, who was not paralvzed in any way, and was perfectly able to understand and to talk, but who had suddenly lost a part of his power of reading and of mathematical

calculation. The lett is d, g, q, x, and y, were no longer recognized, and conveyed no more idea to him than Chinese charters would to us. He had great difficulty in reading-had to spell out all words, and could not read words con-

taining three letters.

He could write the letters which he could read, but could not write the five letters mentioned. He could read and write some numbers, but 6, 7 and 8 had been lost to him, and when asked to write them his only result, after many attempts, was to begin to write the word six, seven or eight, not being able to finish these, as the first and last contained letters (x and g) which he did not know.

He could not add 7 and 5 together. or any two numbers of which 6, 7 or 8 formed a part, for he could not call them to his mind. Other numbers he

knew well. He could no longer tell time by the watch. For a week after the onset of the disease he did not recognize his surroundings. On going out for the first time | HINDOO REMEDY the streets of the city no longer seemed familiar; on coming back he did not know his own house. After a few weeks, however, all his memories had returned excepting those of the letters and figures named; but as the loss of these put a stop to his reading and to all his business life, the small defect of memory was to him a serious thing. Experience has shown that such a defect is due to a small area of disease in one part of the brain. Such cases are not uncommon, and illustrate the separateness of our various memories and their dependence upon a sound brain.

DISTRESS AFTER EATING. HEARTBURN, FLATULENCY. SOUR STOMACH,

-IS FOUND IN-



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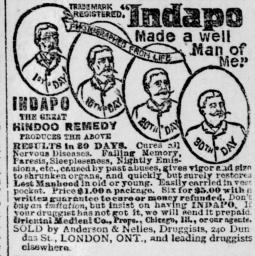
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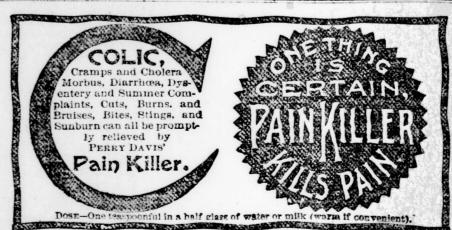
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these two famous disjoint Pars, and the part of these and awrul fog was seen in the heavens." The cosmic germ theory explains the widespread character of these epidemics; and their sub-