

CURIOUS ISLANDS ALL OVER THE WORLD

JAP ISLES THAT CHANGE POSITION CONSTANTLY.

Mysterious Cluster Among the Aleutians Off the Western Extermy of Alaska.

At Yamagata, Japan, there is a small lake called the Lake of the Floating Islands which is said to contain as many as sixty islands that change their position constantly. The islands, which move first one way and then the other, start from masses of vegetable debris that are carried to the surface by bubbles of gas: reeds soon grow on these masses in such quantity that they sometimes become top-heavy and overturn. In that case the reeds grow on the newly exposed side, until the islands have become so deep and wide that they will no longer turn over. Prof. Kusakabe of the Tohoku Imperial University and several associates have investigated the mysterious movements of these floating islands. By placing wooden floats in the lake to show the situation and direction of the various currents these gentlemen found that the combined action of currents of air and water is what makes the islands move.

About ten years ago a new island was reported in that curious Bogoslof group among the Aleutians off the western extremity of Alaska. This one suddenly rose through seventy fathoms of water and far above, and its rise was accompanied by an earthquake that shook Unalaska and Dutch Harbor.

Disappeared in Three Months.

One of the most remarkable events in the history of this mysterious cluster occurred in 1907. On July 4 of that year officers of the U.S. revenue cutter McCulloch made a survey of a mountain, then smoking and fuming as though from its exertion in rising volcanically from the sea among the Aleutian Islands. It was reported in the survey that the peak was 2,000 feet through its base and 455 feet high. One of the surveying party, it is said, wanted the mountain to be named "Independence Mountain," in honor of the day the survey was made, but it was christened "McCulloch Peak." A little more than three months later the McCulloch again visited the place and found that the peak of the same name had totally disappeared.

The region in which this extraordinary event occurred has long engaged the attention of scientists and is in fact one of the strangest localities on earth. There seems to be proceeding there a sort of continuous performance of the character of a geographical vaudeville show, in which Nature assumes the role of quick change artist. These startling changes are said to be due to the action of the Bogoslof Volcano, in the Aleutian Islands. This volcano was discovered about 1790 by a Russian admiral of that name, and it then constituted a single island, now called Castle Island.

It is now conjectured that these islands were probably thrown up by a deep sea volcano, which may thus be regarded, both literally and figuratively, as at the bottom of all weird natural phenomena in this region. Surveys made by revenue cutters show that the islands must have come from great depths, the thousand fathom curve being less than four miles to the northwest.

Island Peak Exploded.

During the winter of 1905-1906 there appeared a new peak about halfway between the old islands. When this peak developed it formed connection with Fire Island, and left a passage between it and Castle Rock in which the least depth of water was five fathoms. This peak was surveyed by officers of the revenue cutter Perry in June, 1906, and was named Perry Peak. The mysterious island surveyed on July 4, 1907, by the McCulloch's officers was then, as has been said, giving forth sulphurous fumes, showing its recent volcanic origin. This peak had absorbed in its uplift about half of Perry Peak and had filled in the space of Castle Rock, thus making practically one island of the group. It is thought that this peak exploded on September 1, 1907, as at 5 o'clock p.m. a dense, black cloud passed over Unalaska Island, covering the land with ash.

Some years ago the revenue cutter Rush visited this island and found great changes, Perry Peak having disappeared. A high ridge of land extended from Fire Island to Castle Rock, having an elevation of three hundred feet at its highest point; the entrance to the harbor near Castle Rock had filled in; high land was formed to the west-northwest, near Fire Island. The navigator of the Rush made a survey of the harbor as it then existed and found it to be one mile across, with from four to twenty-five fathoms of water. The shore to the south was steaming. Although the reports of these surveys read prosaically enough, one can easily picture the danger of surveying a locality likely to break out in a destructive eruption at any time.

No matter how good the book, it can't do all the work. To reap from it sowing you must do more than merely read it.

Surnames and Their Origin

HOUSTON

Variation—Huston.
Racial Origin—Scottish.
Source—A locality.

The family names of Houston and Huston may in some few instances be a corruption or variation of the form Hughson, but not in many. It is easy often to account for the introduction and elimination of many letters in the course of their development. The letter "t," for instance, is readily eliminated. But it's not easily introduced, and the change from Hughson, or Huston, to Houston is not a natural one.

Huston, or Huston (the spellings are interchangeable) have developed as family names from the place name of Houston. It is a parish in Renfrewshire, Scotland.

Tradition has it that the name originated from one Hugh Padvinan, who, in the reign of Malcolm IV. of Scotland, about the year 1159 A.D., received grants of land at this place, in the barony of Hilpeter, from Baldwin of Biggar, who was then Sheriff of Lanark.

STRACHAN

Racial Origin—Scottish.
Source—A locality.

This family name is derived from a parish name in Kincardineshire, Scotland, and of course was borne in the first place either by those who held big lands in that place or who, upon travelling to other parts, became known by it in preference to their previous homes.

But though the family name has been formed in the English rather than in the Gaelic manner, the place name itself is Gaelic.

Its meaning is that of "little valley" or "valley-head," and it is a com-

pound of the words "strath" or "stra" (which also gives the name Strathclyde) and "ceann" or "chan," which you'll also find in the surname of that famous Scottish historical figure "Malcolm Ceann-Mor" (literally "Malcolm Big-Head").

But in the combination the "ch" sound dominates and eliminates the "th," giving the pronunciation "stra-chan" rather than "strath-chan," though more anciently the place was called "Strathachan."

RANKIN

Variations—MacRankin, Rankine.
Racial Origin—Scottish.
Source—A given name.

The family names of Rankin, Rankine and MacRankin are developments of a name borne by one of the Clan Maclean of Duart.

This sept was called in the Gaelic, "Clann Mhic Ruing," from the given name of a chieftain prominent in its history. It was, however, according to tradition, known as the "Clann Duille" in more ancient times, and the MacRankins claim to be the descendants of an Irish chieftain named "Cudilligh."

The forms Rankin and Rankine, of course, are only Anglicized forms of "Mhic Ruing," or "MacRuing," the "kin" in this case being the English equivalent of clan or family, and not a diminutive ending.

This sept of the Clan Maclean seems to have been noted principally for the number and importance of the bagpipe players that it produced, and it must be understood that under the Scottish clan system the piper was a real personage, a sort of custodian of the clan traditions and a constant attendant upon the head of the clan as well as a musician.

of a bicycle splash mud on the clothing of the rider.

The earth in those far-distant days used to spin much faster than it now does, and as it revolved it tended to fling off great masses of matter from its surface. These would collect together in the form of a gigantic "blob" at one point of its surface, and eventually the "blob" was flung into space, where, owing to its own rapid rotation, it soon became the globe which we call the moon.

Headed in the Right Direction.

There is one success sign that is never lacking in the man who is made of the stuff that wins. He is always headed in the right direction, always moving forward. He may not be always going at a rapid pace but he is always facing toward his goal. No matter in what way you consider this man, his appearance, his dress, his manner of doing things, his initiative, his letters, everything about him bears the stamp of progress, shows that he is a man with a definite aim who is headed towards a definite goal.

The Boy Was Right.

One of the great public schools, says the London Morning Post, had a former master whose name was Bird. So tempting a target was hard for the boys to resist. Once on coming into the classroom the master found his class gazing with such profound gravity either at their desks or at the ceiling that he looked round for symptoms of trouble. Sure enough, on the blackboard was written the quotation: "Hail to thee, blithe spirit—Bird thou never wert."

"Who wrote that?" the master demanded sharply.

There was dead silence for a moment, and then a small, thin, studious-looking boy in spectacles rose and replied: "Please, sir, I think it was Shelley."

The foolish man who built his house on the sand—

He gave an example in folly which anybody can understand.

It isn't so easy, however, to sense the mistake of trying to build the body on foods which lack essential nourishment.

Here, again, is a foundation of sand which gives way when the test comes.

Many a food that tastes good lacks honesty of nourishment to equal its taste. Thus it tempts the appetite into mistakes that often are costly.

Grape-Nuts is a food which helps build bodily endurance for life's stress and storm. The full nourishment of wheat and malted barley, together with the vital mineral salts so necessary to bone structure and red blood corpuscles, with phosphates for the brain, is retained in Grape-Nuts. The long baking process by which Grape-Nuts is made gives the food a natural sweetness and an unusual ease of digestibility and assimilation.

Served with cream or milk, Grape-Nuts is fully nourishing, and whether eaten as a cereal at breakfast or lunch, or made into a pudding for dinner, Grape-Nuts has a particular delight for the appetite. Sold by grocers.

Grape-Nuts—the Body Builder
"There's a Reason"

Waiting for a Living.

Few people know that waiting outside the wall of the Old City of Jerusalem, beneath the site where once stood the Temple of Solomon, is systematically done by proxy.

Pious Jews abroad, who cannot hope to visit Jerusalem in person, send funds to local Jews, who go to the Wall and give expression to the absent one's grief. This money, known as "Halaka Money," is one of the mainstays of the Jewish colony in Jerusalem. There are Schools of Wallers, and if sorrow at the Wall of Wallers expresses itself in tears, these are collected and sold abroad as precious relics.

When the Zion Commission was established in Palestine, the "Halaka Money" from Jews abroad was diverted largely into its coffers, and the financial support of the wallers fell away seriously. But it has been restored since, either by subsidies from the Zion funds, or by a renewal of direct subscriptions.

Success of Forestry in France.

One hundred years ago the Landes, some two million acres in extent, was a barren waste, grazed by a poor and unhealthy type of sheep, and the only relief by a local writer as swampy, fever-ridden, and desolate. The area, by intelligent co-operation between state, communes, and individual owners has been turned from the poorest district in France into two of the richest departments of that rich country. In that happy district practically no local rates are paid, fire-wood can be had almost for the asking. Individual peasants own up to 100 to 300 hectares (250 to 750 acres) of what was once barren soil, and now is forest land worth £100 per acre, and bringing in a steady revenue from turpentine and from pit props for the British market. The wages in the district are high, and the shelter and humus given by the trees allow the once sandy waste to be used for vine culture and cereal crops.

THE FALL WEATHER HARD ON LITTLE ONES

Canadian fall weather is extremely hard on little ones. One day it is warm and bright and the next wet and old. These sudden changes bring on colds, cramps and colic, and unless baby's little stomach is kept right the result may be serious. There is nothing to equal Baby's Own Tablets in keeping the little ones well. They sweeten the stomach, regulate the bowels, break up colds and make baby thrive. The Tablets are sold by medicine dealers or by mail at 25 cents a box from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Belgians Dig Fifty Feet for Shell.

In the last year of the war a formidable shell dropped from a height of 6,000 feet on the village of Havay, between Mons and Maubeuge, says a Brussels despatch. It did not explode, but it made a hole in the earth about 50 feet deep, where it had remained. This shell weighs two tons, and the charge of explosive is estimated to weigh from 150 lbs. to 200 lbs. The Germans, who regard the shell as a relic of much importance, tried to extract it, but were unable to do so.

The Belgian authorities succeeded in pulling out the shell after making a large excavation about it. The work demanded great precaution as a shell of a similar kind to the one buried at Havay fell not far from the French frontier and made a crater more than 100 feet in diameter.

International Court of Justice.

The League of Nations has constituted the permanent court of justice provided for in the Treaty of Versailles. As a matter of record we give the names of the judges: Viscount Finlay, Great Britain; Dr. Yoroko-Oda, Japan; Dr. Andrew Weiss, France; Commendatore D. Anzilotti, Italy; Dr. Ruy Barbosa, Brazil; Dr. B. T. C. Loder, Holland; Antonio S. de Bustamante, Cuba; Judge Didrik Niholm, Denmark; Dr. Max Huber, Switzerland; Dr. Raphael Y. Creva, Spain; Dr. John Bassett Moore, United States. Four deputy judges were also elected: Dr. Negulesco of Roumania, Dr. Jovanovic of Jugoslavia, Mr. Wang of China and Judge Beichmann of Norway.

Monarchist Menace in Germany.

After 1871 the French exiled all members of the reigning family and thereby removed an element of danger, a course that did much toward consolidating the young republic. That the former Kaiser of Germany is still awarding crosses of merit, though three years out of power, that Prince Oscar parades daily while the band plays the royal hymn and that there are monarchist demonstrations all over the country have finally aroused some of the German newspapers to urge the Reichstag "to make an exceptional law applying to an exceptional case." One proposal is to exile all German princes, especially those of the Hohenzollern and Wittelsbach families.

Minard's Liniment Lumberman's Friend

WHAT TO DO FOR STOMACH TROUBLE

Good Advice From One Who Had Suffered Much.

Nine tenths of all forms of indigestion or so-called stomach trouble are not due to the condition of the stomach at all, but are caused by other influences. The great contributing cause of indigestion is thin blood. Good blood and plenty of it is required by the stomach to take care of the food. If the blood is thin the stomach functions sluggish, food lies undigested, gas forms and causes pains in various parts of the body. Instead of getting nourishment from the blood the system gets poison.

Relief from this condition can be obtained by the tonic treatment which Mr. D. Shaw, M. Stewart, P.E.I., tried and now warmly recommends to others. Mr. Shaw says: "I suffered from indigestion for over four years, and have tried many of the well-known remedies for such troubles, but never obtained more than temporary relief. The trouble was aggravated by constipation setting in, owing to the stomach failing to do its work, and laxatives only gave relief to the bowels and left the stomach in worse condition. The result was my blood was growing more and more anaemic, I did not sleep well at night and was growing despondent. I was in this wretched condition when a friend advised me to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. I got three boxes and by the time they were finished there was some change for the better. This greatly encouraged me and I continued taking the pills for some three months, by which time my stomach was all right again, my blood good, nerves strong and life was again worth living. My advice to all who suffer from stomach trouble is to give Dr. Williams' Pink Pills a fair trial."

Dr. Williams' Pink Pills can be obtained through any medicine dealer, or by mail at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50 from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

Pauper Invented Blanket.

Poverty is responsible for the invention of the blanket. Years ago a man in England lost all his wealth and became very poor. One cold winter night in 1340 he used a piece of rough unfinished cloth for a bad covering to keep himself warm, and from this makeshift bed covering he invented the blanket. The name of this man was Thomas Blanket, and the new kind of bedding has been known under the name of blanket ever since.

Ask for Minard's and take no other.

Oh, it is great, and there is no other greatness—to make some work of God's creation more fruitful, better, more worthy of God, to make some human heart a little wiser, manlier, happier,—more blessed, less accursed.—Carlyle

Fine-edged weapons should not be used on rough timber.

Cascarets To-Night for Liver, Bowels, or Bilious, Headachy.

Get a 10-cent box now. You're headachy! You have a bad taste in your mouth, your eyes burn, your skin is yellow, your lips parched. No wonder you feel mean. Your system is full of bile not properly passed off, and what you need is a cleansing up inside. Don't continue being a bilious nuisance to yourself and those who love you, and don't resort to harsh physics that irritate and injure. Remember that most disorders of the stomach, liver and bowels are gone by morning with gentle, thorough Cascarets—they work while you sleep. A 10-cent box will keep your liver and bowels clean; stomach sweet, and your head clear for months. Children love to take Cascarets too because they never gripe or sicken.

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BITS OF HUMOR FROM HERE & THERE

Not Lost At All.

Mike (to his son)—"Now, you've been fighting again. You've lost yer two front teeth."

Pinn—"Naw, I ain't lost 'em; I got 'em in me pocket."

Got Her Answer.

Hearing a faint rustle in the dark hallway below, the elder sister, supposing the young man had gone, leaned over the balustrade and called out: "Well, Bessie, have you landed him?" There was a deep, sepulchral silence for some moments. It was broken by the hesitating, constrained voice of the young man: "She has?"

Be Very Careful.

The Sunday school treat was in full swing, and after the games the youngsters all sat down to a good feed. Little Johnnie, unaccustomed to such rich fare, had eaten unsparingly. And now, at the end, he was feeling rather uncomfortable.

"Can I lift you down?" asked the kind old lady.

"Yes, ma'am, you can lift me down," replied Johnnie; "but"—and he looked pleadingly up into her eyes—"please don't bend me."

How He Won Her.

Now Hortense was very proud of her small feet. This fact was quite well known to young Wilkins, one of her numerous suitors, and he determined to make good use of it.

After months of ardent toll he approached her with his small savings. "Hortense," he cried, "I lay the whole of my fortune at your feet."

"Fortune?" gasped Hortense. "I wasn't aware that you had any."

"It certainly isn't much," gallantly responded Wilkins, "but it would look immense beside those tiny feet of yours!"

The date is an essential article of diet to the Egyptian as rice is to the Hindu.

Mother! Move Child's Bowels With California Fig Syrup.

Hurry mother! Even a sick child loves the "fruity" taste of "California Fig Syrup" and it never fails to open the bowels. A teaspoonful to-day may prevent a sick child to-morrow. If constipated, bilious, feverish, fretful, has cold, colic, or if stomach is sour, tongue coated, breath bad, remember a good cleansing of the little bowels is often all that is necessary.

Ask your druggist for genuine "California Fig Syrup" which has directions for babies and children of all ages printed on bottle. Mother! You must say "California" or you may get an imitation fig syrup.

A Health Saving REMEMBER:

Don't wait until you get sick—USE

MINARD'S

"KING OF PAIN"

LINIMENT

USE SLOAN'S TO EASE LAME BACKS

YOU can't do your best when your back and every muscle aches with fatigue. Apply Sloan's Liniment freely, without rubbing, and enjoy a penetrative glow of warmth and comfort.

Good for rheumatism, neuralgia, sprains and strains, aches and pains, sciatica, sore muscles, stiff joints and the after effects of weather exposure.

For forty years pain's enemy. Ask your neighbor. Keep Sloan's handy. At all druggists—35c, 70c, \$1.40. Made in Canada.

Sloan's

Liniment

(Pain's enemy)

Aspirin

Aspirin in handy tin boxes of 12 tablets, and in bottles of 24 and 100. Aspirin is the trade mark (registered in Canada) of Bayer Manufacture of Monaceticacidester of Salicylicacid. While it is well known that Aspirin means Bayer manufacture, to assist the public against imitations, the Tablets of Bayer Company will be stamped with their general trade mark, the "Bayer Cross."

TORONTO WOMAN GAINS 35 POUNDS

ONLY WEIGHED NINETY POUNDS, SHE SAYS.

Now Feels Fine and Strong and Gratitude to Tanlac is Unbounded.

"Tanalac has built me up from a mere frame weighing only ninety pounds to a strong woman weighing one hundred and twenty-five pounds and my gratitude is unbounded," said Mrs. Lydia Pickup, 12 Ramsay Lane, Toronto, Ont.

"My stomach troubled me so much during the past three years that my life was a perfect horror. My appetite was gone entirely, gas would form and nearly set me wild with pain in the pit of my stomach. The gas nearly smothered me and my heart acted so queerly that it alarmed me. I could get scarcely any sleep and was tired and dull and all worn out. I often turned so dizzy I could hardly stand up, and at times my head hurt like it would burst open. I lost weight until my clothes were entirely too large and I was so weak I could hardly move."

"One day I saw a statement about Tanlac and I determined to try it. I have now taken ten bottles in all and my appetite has come back, I eat anything I want and as much as I want at every meal without pain or any uncomfortable feeling afterwards. I do not have headaches or dizzy spells any more, I sleep soundly every night and get up feeling fine and strong in the morning."

"Tanalac is sold by leading druggists everywhere. Adv.

Every great and commanding movement in the annals of the world is a triumph of enthusiasm. Nothing great was ever achieved without it.—Emerson.

Classified Advertisements.

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BELL PLAYER PIANO IN GOOD condition, with a large number of music rolls, for sale at a bargain. L. Costello, 73 West Adelaide Street, Toronto.

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CUTICURA HEALS SKIN TROUBLE

In Pimples On Face, Itched
So Had To Rub Them.
Burned and Hurt.

"My face was a mass of pimples and I had an unusual amount on my forehead and chin. They were hard and red and later they came to white heads. They itched so I would rub them, and then they started to burn and hurt."

"I saw an advertisement for Cuticura Soap and Ointment and I tried them and found they helped me. I purchased more and when I had used three cakes of Cuticura Soap and one and a half boxes of Cuticura Ointment I was completely healed." (Signed) Miss Anna Pyalka, Carroll, Wash., Dec. 6, 1919.

Give Cuticura Soap, Ointment and Talcum the care of your skin.

See 25c. Ointment 25 and 50c. Talcum 25c. Sold throughout the Dominion, Canada. Beware of cheap imitations. Cuticura Soap always without soap.

TO WOMEN OF MIDDLE AGE

This Woman's Letter Tells
You How To Pass The
Crisis Safely.

Lancelles, P.Q.—"During the Change of Life I felt so weak and run down I could hardly do my work. The perspiration would pour over my face so that I couldn't see what I was doing. We live on a farm, so there is lots to do, but many who felt as I did would have been in bed. I took Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and it did me a world of good. I tried other remedies but I put Vegetable Compound ahead of them all, and I tell every one I know how much good it has done me."—Mrs. DUNCAN BROWN, Lancelles, Prov. Quebec.

Such warning symptoms as sense of suffocation, hot flashes, headaches, backaches, dread of impending evil, timidity, somnolence in the evening, palpitation of the heart, sparks before the eyes, irregularities, constipation, variable appetite, weakness and dizziness should be heeded by middle-aged women, and let Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound carry them safely through this crisis as it did Mrs. Brown.

You are invited to write for free advice. No other medicine has been so successful in relieving women's suffering as has Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. Women may receive free and helpful advice by writing the Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co., Lynn, Mass.