

## THE MISSING LINK

Claimed to Have Been Captured by a French Traveller.

The sensational news comes to a waiting world to-day, on the authority of a French traveller, that "the missing link" has been discovered, and alive. Paul d'Enjoy, an explorer, who has been investigating a little known region in Indo-China, on the frontier of Annam, is the discoverer. He has been travelling in a mountainous district, in about 12 degrees n. lat., and 101 degrees e. long. It is a region of dense forests, in which lurk savage races. Approach is often dangerous. Among them is a tribe called the Moi. One day as d'Enjoy was going through the woods with a strong band of followers they came upon a small group of Moi, who instantly took to flight with the exceptional of one individual, who was gathering honeycomb in a tall tree. When he saw the travellers he came down the trunk with his feet flat to the bark, apparently not using his tail, and attempted to escape. But they had surrounded the tree, and after a struggle effected his capture. Some of the party understood the Moi language, for d'Enjoy tells us that the wild man gave them some information about his people, though interrupting his discourse with sobs and howls. All his race, he said, formerly possessed tails, but they are no longer universal appendages, because many of the tribe had ceased to be of pure Moi blood through intermarriage, especially in the case of those dwelling on the outskirts of the country, with tailless tribes. The wild man's companions had escaped, but they left behind them, in a long, tunnel-shaped hut, built of dry leaves, some polished stones, bamboo pipes, copper bracelets, and head collars. These were said to be obtained from their Annamese neighbors, with whom they occasionally traded, though they are dangerous customers, and have no scruple at knocking a creditor on the head by way of payment. They are said to burn their dead, and bury the ashes in bamboo pots, differing in this respect from their Chinese and other neighbors. The prisoner was extremely savage in aspect, and that is the character of the race. Their hair is exceptionally rough, sticking out like the spurs of cocks, and the surrounding people treat them as savages, beasts, and apes, so that they are being gradually exterminated.

M. d'Enjoy's account is disappointing in details. He does not even describe the creature's tail, nor tell his height, color, and features. He only adds that many of the race have peculiarly accentuated ankle bones. The one he captured poisoned the coolie in charge of him and escaped.

## CHRISTMAS AT OSBORNE.

The royal boar's head, the baren of beef and woodcock pie, which are indispensable for a British sovereign's Christmas feed, are all sent from Windsor to Osborne ready cooked. The boar's head is brought in in solemn state, preceded by choir boys singing a carol as follows: The queen's boar's head in hand I bear Bedecked with bays and rosemary, And I pray you, my people, be merry, Quot catis in convivio Caput apri defero Reddens laudea Domino.

Lord steward has provided this In honor of the king of bliss, On Christmas to be served In Regimenae Atrio Caput apri defero Reddens laudea Domino.

—Exobango.

A musical bicycle has appeared in England. The motion of the vehicle grinds out the tunes, and the wheelman whirrs along to the strains of lively harmony.



## DEATH IN STYLISH SHOES.

The Toothpick, Razor and Other Fancy Toed Shoes Are Bad For the Feet.

The death of Richard P. Owens, of Trenton, N.J., several days ago as the result of hiccoughs caused by the scratch of a toenail, shows the danger to which one may become subject through the slightest injury. In this case it was the nail of a "hammer" toe that inflicted the fatal wound. Any other nail, however, is capable of inflicting the same injury, but to produce such an injury it is necessary for the nail to be attached to a deformed toe.

This deformity may be congenital, the result of an accident or, as is most common, the product of improper footwear.

Do you ever wear shoes is a question which of course, everybody will answer in but one way, and that is Yes. Now put the question. Do you wear shoes of the proper shape, and modelled after the shape of your foot? How many wearers of shoes will be able to answer the latter question in the affirmative? Not one in many, many thousands.

Of all the deformities resulting from following the dictates of fashion there is none so common as the misshapen foot caused by wearing pointed shoes. When we examine antique and classic sculpture we find that the phalanges are always on a line with the metatarsal bones, and the space between the great toe and the one adjoining is always well marked. This shows that the feet were allowed to spread out as nature intended they should.

## SHOES OF THE ANCIENTS.

The primitive shoe was shaped over the foot, and was made to allow the toes sufficient freedom to insure the natural heel-and-toe gait. With the modern shoe it is very different. Fashion says pointed shoes will be worn, and that settles it, they are worn regardless of the result.

The primitive shoe was made to conform to the shape of the foot, while the modern shoe, and in compliance with the absurd demands of fashion, the foot must conform to the so-called shoe. In observing pedestrians on the street it is a very easy matter to pick out those who wear the right kind of shoes from those who are slaves to style. The

former step along with a comfortable heel-and-toe gait, and their feet turn out but little if any, while the latter who wear toothpick, razor and other fancy "toed" shoes, shuffle along with their feet, very much turned out.

This turning out of the feet is necessary to increase the size of the base of support. As a consequence there is a severe muscular strain, the arch of the foot is injured and flat feet are the usual result. Many people who wear pointed-toed shoes think that by wearing a shoe two or three sizes too long they avoid all danger of corns, bunions, ingrown toe-nails and numerous other tortures.

This is a mistake. A long shoe is capable of inflicting quite as much harm as any other, for in walking the foot gradually slips forward, the toes become crumpled and overlap one another, and sooner or later the inevitable bunion appears.

By referring to the frontprint of a laborer's shoe it will be noticed that his "brogan" is widest over the toes. This is as it should be. The fashionable shoe, however, is always narrowest where it should be widest.

## PROPER SHOES FOR CHILDREN.

The deformities spoken of are seen not only in adults, but many children, whose tender feet have been crowded into pointed shoes, have paid the usual tribute to the goddess of fashion. Great care should be observed in the fitting of a child's shoe as it is a very easy matter to distort the foot and produce a permanent deformity.

When properly fitted a child's shoe should be widest at a line drawn from the small toe to the base of the first toe. With a shoe thus made there is absolutely no danger of producing any of the deformities which are so very common at the present time.

## PIE THAT WEIGHED TONS.

A quaint old custom of baking huge pies to commemorate remarkable events still exists in Derby Dale, England. An enormous piece of such pastry has recently been made to celebrate the repeal of the corn laws. The "Repeal Pie" baked in 1846, probably the largest of these pies, measured seven feet in diameter and contained nearly half a ton of flour. A pie was baked in honor of Queen Victoria in 1837 weighing over two tons. It served to sixty thousand people.

Many thousands of artificial flowers decked the trees of Paris during the Czar's recent visit to that city.