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QUEEREST ISLAND IN WORLD. Town of Bottom Is Built Inside a

Crater. Of all the queer islands in the orld, surely Saba must be acceded world, sur the palm.

It is only a small island, having an area of five square miles, and its peculiar shape has given it its secondary title of "Napoleon's Cocked Hat."

It is in the Dutch West Indies, in the Leeward group, 40 miles NW. of St. Kitts, and is merely a volcano which rises out of the sea to a height of 1,500 feet, only the peak and cra-ter heins above water.

The sides are almost sheer, and as there is generally a hearty surf breaking all round it, it is an extremely difficult and dangerous place on which to land.

It has no harbor, or anything re-sembling a harbor; it has no beach, and no landing-stage or safe anchorage.

It has no roads, no springs; no timber grows on the island, and no iron is to be found. It is so rocky and rugged that the only means of communication between house and house are footpaths. Yet this apparaently inhositable spot supports a population of about 2,500 people. For water the inhabitants depend on rain, which they catch in tanks.

The island is Dutch; and unlike all

The island is Dutch; and unlike all the other West Indian Islands, the inhabitants are white. Most of the population is Dutch; real Dutch; fair, freekled and sandy. Yet they speak English.

The only town on Saba is at the top of the mountain; so they must needs call it "Bottom."

The town has hardly an ideal site, for it is inside the crater; it is just

for it is inside the crater; it is just like living in the bottom of a teacup. The citizens have to climb up the The citizens have to climb up the sides to see the sea, and if they wish to descend to the water's edge they must take a path about as steep as the roof of a house and then climb down the "Ladder," a sort of stairway on the side of the cliff, with steps cut out of the rock.

Most people would rather die than attempt that "Ladder." The mere sight of it makes the average man dizzy; yet everything, stores, provi-

dizzy; yet everything, stores, provisions, etc., has to be taken up that way. There is no other way.

way. There is no other way.

The town itself is merely a jumble of small houses set down where possible. One or two of the houses resible. One or two of the small joice in the possession of a small garden, but—well, it is just exactly the sort of a town one would expect to find in such a place if one had a sufficiently powerful imagination to expect a town at all.

The principal industry of this peo-ple, who being Dutch, yet speak Eng-lish as their native tongue; who live at the top of a volcano and call their town "Bottom"; who have no beach or landing-stage, no wood and no fron; is, what would you think?—of all things—shipbuilding.

They are good shipbuilders, too. Their boats and small craft are fameir boats and fishing sms

actually built inside the crater, haul-ed up to the edge, and then lowered ed up to the into the sea.

As a final inconsistency, Saba, though it has no harbor, numbers a harbormaster amongst its high

#### Solomon's Cave.

Solomon's Cave.

Solomon's Cave, an old quarry from which the stone was taken to build Solomon's Temple, is situated just outside of Jerusalem, in the hills of Judea. All that is left of the temple is the idea embodied in a model of it. On its site stands the Mosque of Omar. But the cave remains unchanged, its walls echoing the voices from out the age and bearing testimony to the foundation of the Masonic lodge.

Masonic lodge.

In the early ages the laws of religion and philosophy and those of architecture were very closely united in thought, and it was held that these in thought, and it was held that these laws were secrets to be known only to the few. The working tools of the builder became emblems of moral truth and the arts and crafts were secrets jealously guarded. There must have been a secret order of architects who built the Temple of Solomon and opened friendly relations with foreign nations made of tions with foreign nations, made of the organization an international fraternity. Great material help was given him by Hiram I. of Tyre and the society of Phoenician architects

in the construction of the temple.

When Diocletian began his reign
he determined to destroy Christianity and began the persecution of all re-ligious secret orders. For a time the builders, owing to their value and services to the state, were exempt from these laws of suppression and enjoyed special privileges, but gradually, during the Dark Ages, they were forced into more secrecy, taking refuge in caves and secluded places to hold their meetings.

#### The Admiral's Plight.

ed, the pilot turned and yelled, "To the deuce with you! Sit down!" As soon as the flight began he was filled with horror at the enormity of his offence in daring so to address an admiral, and he flew on and on over, the North Sea for nearly three hours without venturing to look round.

Eventually he landed, expecting to be taken off in chains at any moment, but as soon as the engine stopped the admiral clambered stiffly out and said, "Well, I have never in my life said, well, I have level in My had been spoken to like that by a junior officer; but what I was trying to tell you all the time was that there was no seat in my part of the machine."

### SHANGHAL.

Is Bright and Gay, and as Cosmopolitan as Cairo.

Shanghai, the great Chinese city, is often called "the Paris of the Far East." It is bright and gay, full of life and as cosmopolitan as Cairo. Perhaps it is not the Chinese who make it so gay, rather the foreigners, for as the great gateway to China it has a considerable population of Russians, French, English, Americans, and a sprinkling from Spain, Italy and Portugal. They are 3,000 to 5,000 miles from home and have plenty of leisure and money; hence gayety will find easy expression. "The nations of the Western world have been prowling around that gate like vultures for many years," writes Archie Bell in "The Spell of China." "Their various representatives of State and commerce saw to it that Shanghai should not be a dull place in which to spend their years of 'exile.' The young generation is clinging tenaciously to the tradi-

The foreigners, or whites, though much in the minority, have wonderful influence over the natives. A dozen Chinamen will scoot when an American, Russian, Frenchman or Englishman yells at them, says Mr. Bell. "The Caucasian comes along the street where a group of Chinage the street where a group of Chinese are talking and blocking his path. It is China and these men are in

It is China and these men are in their own country, but what does the white man do? Turn aside to pass them? Instead, he yells; 'Get out of my way, you loafers,' or stronger words, and the Chinese scatter."

The city is full of life and interest, though primitive ideas of sanitation do not make the natives quarters always pleasant. Natives are much given to love of birds, and great numbers of them carry birds along the street in little bamboo cages. The bird market is one of the sights of the city. The "society" in which the foreigners move, based to a great extent on clerical classes, to a great extent on clerical classes amuse themselves with night life that lasts far toward morning. "One restaurant, that boasts of being the gayest in the city, has a choir of the best Hawalian singers who ever left best Hawaiian singers who ever left the island,' and a cabaret entertain-ment that would be gay in Paris or New York."

The city's commercial importance boats and small craft are tamthroughout the Windward is best realized by approach by
water. "Arrival at Shanghai seems doubly interesting by reason of the fact that after leaving the fine ocean liner, the passenger is still 13 miles from his destination. The steamer runs into the great yellow flood that sweeps down the sea from Thibet, dividing China into halves, but it proceeds only as far as the bar that is near the junction of the Whangpoor-kiang and Yangtse-kiang, drops anchor and swings around in the muddy current awaiting the tenders, upon which passengers and baggage are carried to Shanghai. It is a fine ride up the river, the bosom of which seems dotted with the is a fine ride up the river, the bosom of which seems dotted with the world's shipping. After many twists and turns, the city begins to loom in the distance, boats seem to be more numerous, and before long one distinguishes the flags of many nations from the ships at anchor and from consulates and foreign concession buildings. Here is Shanghai, on the same parallel as Cairo and New the same parallel as Cairo and New Orleans, but a nice cool breeze is blowing and it seems a relief after Hong Kong." London's Missing Motto.

London has a coat of arms, but no

motto.

The council decided upon its coat of arms in 1914, but there was a difference of opinion on the choice of a motto, and the question was shelved. Years have passed without any effort being made to supply the opinion.

omission.

From time to time suggestions have been offered, and just at present everybody seems to be doing it. A professor of Cambridge puts forward "Urbs Urblum" (The City of Cities), which is neat without being gaudy, and also true.

But London, as several critics have pointed out, is something more than a city. It is, if you want to use Latin, "civatas"—a State, a community, a commonwealth. On these lines "Britannorum Focus"—the Brittons'

tannorum Focus"—the Britons' heart, has been evolved. Latin is the usual heraldic lan-

An amusing story concerning an elderly and very important admiral whom he had to take up in a 'plane is told by Air-Commodore C. R. Samson, a well-known flying man.

All the time he was struggling to get the machine off the water he heard his passenger dancing about behind him and shouting out inaudible

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motto of wider significance, such as "Heart of Empire," "Mother of Empire," and "Mother of Nations."

#### Thrilling Honeymoons.

A well-known big-game hunter and his wife have just returned from a honeymoon spent in the village of a hitherto unknown Central African

One of the most remarkable honeymoons was that spent by Major Cotton and his wife, who, immediately after their marriage in Nairobi, set out on foot for the mysterious Moun-tains of the Moon, on whose perilous slopes they spent a year among can-nibals and gorillas before returning

to civilization.

Even more thrilling was the wedding journey undertaken by Counted the Lesdain and his bride, who plumes ed into the heart of China on a day gerous expedition that took them over mountains 20,000 feet high and into places where white people had nevel

places where white people had never previously set foot.

But the most hazardous undertak-ing of this kind was the ill-fated vor-age of Captain Andrews and hi-American bride, who left the alta-and embarked in a tiny vessel with the object of crossing the Atlantic Presumably the ship was lost at a for the honeymooners were heard of again.

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