

Missing Links

Gossip From Every Land Summarized for Busy Readers.

AN English Baronet, Sir Saville Crossley, narrowly escaped the fate of the Lord of Ravenswood in the "Bride of Lammermoor" recently. He was riding on the beach near Lowestoft, when his horse sank in a quicksand. The baronet was fished out with difficulty, but the horse was lost.

LORD WOLSELEY, the commander-in-chief, is studying the question of the British soldier's clothes. He has decided that cloth of coarser texture shall be used for the tunic and trousers, and is now making up his mind as to what color to substitute for scarlet. It will probably be dark blue.

IT MAY be interesting to compare Dr. Nansen's approximation to the North Pole with the efforts of his recent predecessors. Admiral Markham at the end of his journey was 400 miles from the pole. Mr. Lockwood, the American traveler, 336, and Dr. Nansen 226. Dr. Nansen has, therefore, gone 170 miles further than anybody else.

THE clock in the tower of St. Clement's Church, in the Strand, London, possesses the somewhat novel peculiarity of striking every hour twice. The hour is struck once on a large bell weighing 2,400 pounds, and also the Sanctus, a bell in the spire, which dates back to the thirteenth century, and is said to be one of the bells used long before the Reformation.

IT MAY be something new to many people that but for the millions upon millions of floating particles of dust in the atmosphere, the sky would not be blue, but black. This is what we are told in a very interesting, recently published book, "The Path of Astronomy." The dust here is under an obligation, for who would not rather gaze into depths of azure than into a sky as dark by day as it is at night when the sun is withdrawn.

PRINCE GEORGE of Cumberland, whose succession to the Duchy of Brunswick on his attaining his majority was to be the solution of the difficulties between the German empire and the Hanoverian Guelphs, is suffering from inflammation of the marrow in the knee-joint, spreading to the thigh and shin bones. The doctors think it may be necessary to amputate the thigh. His recovery is doubtful, whether they do or not.

AN Englishman has just been robbed by an ingenious trick in a Paris cafe. He entered into conversation with a well-dressed stranger who began playing with the lever of a self-water siphon on the table. Suddenly he turned the stream on the Englishman's shirt front, jumped up apologizing profusely and wiping off the water with his handkerchief. Then he left the cafe, and the Englishman found that his pocketbook with \$300 in bank notes had gone with the stranger.

HENDON, north of London, has a tavern in a churchyard, with tombstones all around it, which has been kept there for many hundred years and is the only licensed house in such a place. The original building was burned down 200 years ago, the present house having been built soon after the restoration of Charles II. It is believed that it was once a church house, as by the terms of the lease a room must be set aside for parish meetings and for the preservation of the parish records.

A GOOD story of the late Princess Alice has come out on the occasion of the striking of a medal for the fishermen of Ushant. She once visited the mint unexpectedly at a time when some medals were being made for non-commissioned officers of the army. While she was being shown through the building, the officials thought it would be a great thing to stamp her name and the date on one of the medals and present it to her. She accepted the gift and then burst out laughing. The inscription reads: "For long service and good conduct."

THE Society for the Protection of Cats, founded a little over a year ago, in London, has recently had a formal opening under the patronage of the Duke and Duchess of Bedford. An isolated stable on a quiet street has been secured for the lost, maimed and sick felines. As soon as possible a lethal chamber will be constructed where poor cats which are on the verge of death from abuse, accident or natural illness may be painlessly removed from this vale of tears. One part of the building has been put aside for the use of boarders, who, in the absence of their owners, will be cared for at moderate prices.

A LOQUACIOUS telegraph operator grievously misled a crowd of loyal Britishers the other day and made them ridiculous. It seems that the son of the Marquis of Salisbury raised a fuss, and, being in need of a queen, he sent to the nearest town for one, receiving at Hatfield House, in reply to his message, a telegram to the effect that "the Queen will arrive by 3:40 this afternoon." The operator, supposing it to refer to her Majesty, was unable to resist the temptation, himself, and an immense crowd had assembled at the station when the bee arrived. The fate of the operator is unknown, but the bee reached its destination in safety.

THE customs at the Court of Montenegro seem very primitive, judging from an incident at a recent dinner party. The Prince and his guests were sitting in the dining hall, when the servants entered, bringing in an enormous roasted whole, which they placed on the table. The Prince and his guests drew near, and at a sign from his Highness a young officer drew his sword and with one stroke cut through the hog, through the tablecloth, and deep into the table. Inside the boar was a turkey, which had been shot by the Prince, and it is said to have acquired a most delicate flavor from its manner of cooking.

ONE of the stories that followed Li Hung Chang from London related, as most of the anecdotes about him do, to his extreme frankness in interrogating the persons he meets on any point which interests him, even though the newer civilization has imposed on men more reticence. Earl Li met in London a woman of titled family and influential social position. He asked her how many children she had. "Three," was her answer. "Only three?" responded the Earl, through his interpreter. "Why haven't you had any more?" "What haven't you had any more?" "What?" "I have never had any more," she replied. "Why haven't you had any more?" "What haven't you had any more?" "What?" "I have never had any more," she replied.

"Never had any?" was the surprised response from the Earl; "then why haven't you?"

IN New Zealand, as in California, the Chinaman abounds, and there, too, he has to resort to strategy to make good his position. In Otago, where Scotchmen are in the majority, a contract for mending a road was to be let, and the most acceptable bid was signed "McPherson." Notice was sent to the said McPherson to complete the contract, and he appeared in all the glory of yellow hue and pigtail. "But," gasped the president of the board, "your name can't be McPherson." "All right," cheerfully answered John Chipman, "nobody catches contact in Otago unless he named Mac." The contract was signed, and the Mongolian McPherson did his work as well as if he hailed from Glasgow.

THE Philadelphia Record tells this story of Patti: "The death of Franchi, who was for many years Mme. Patti's private secretary, recalls an anecdote which he himself used to tell with great gusto. The scene was in Philadelphia during one of Patti's tours under the management of Col. Mapleson. Mapleson's contract was to pay Patti \$100 a night in advance. He only possessed \$1,000, and Mme. Patti good-naturedly undertook to work to the theater ready dressed for 'La Traviata,' all save her shoes. Eight hundred dollars more was scraped from the box-office, and six Franchi declared: 'You are a marvelous man, Mapleson. She would not do it for anyone but you. Mme. Patti has put one shoe on. Nor was the other shoe worn until the odd \$200 was planked down.'

For Boys and Girls A Laugh--A Smile.

Out in a Dory All Night.
By Edward A. Rand, in The Christian Work.

"Am-I going off--with that, Old Silas?" John Sprague asked himself.

There was no doubt about it. Skipper Thompson, of the fishing smack Betsy, was now repeating his orders. "John, you git in thar with Silas, Princeton and be off. Hurry, 'fore it's too dark."

"Old Silas" word to John was, "In with ye! Night is a comin'!" There were nets to be examined, and "Old Silas," as John called him, and as people often spoke of him, was in a dory lying alongside of the Betsy, waiting for the boy's company on this visit to the Betsy's nets. John silently obeyed and stepping into the dory, took up an oar and began to row away.

His reflections explain any reluctance to go off with the fisherman somberly pulling away on his oar. "I don't like to go with this man for he has not treated me fairly. Four months ago I went up to his son John's fish house, two miles up the shore, for my big brother Steve. He had asked John to lend him a big net, and John gave it to me and I lugged it home. That day John left on a long fishing trip to the eastward. When Old Silas saw John Princeton's net, he said Steve stole it. I told him 'no, for his John lent it, and I went after it and lugged it home. He said Steve stole it, and I was trying to get the net out of it. Well, as John Princeton was off, we couldn't have his word in the matter. Old Silas stuck to his opinion so far as to say that any way it was borrowed, I did not bug it home, for I wasn't strong enough. I asked grandmamma what to do about it, about this charge that I lied, and if I couldn't make him take it back some way, and she said, 'You do your duty and treat him kindly, and something will turn up so you will get the better of him.' And this is what has turned up, to be sent off with him and to be rowing him, for I know he is old--and--and--"

What's the matter? He stopped rowing. John turned and his companion had gone fast asleep, his oar at rest as well as his master. "How old he looks and how tired he is. All wrinkled, ain't he! An old-old man! His head dropped away down!" mused John. Suddenly, the aged head came up, and a sharp voice sang out, "Come, boy! A sojering! Gone to sleep? Row away thar!" "I was rowing, and you were sleeping!"

"Were you rowing when I looked at ye? Not the first time ye've lied!" John was too indignant to speak easily, and after a remonstrance and a reminder that the boat was heading wrong, he rowed in sullen silence. "Whew--eh--eh! Here we are in a--"

"Neither John nor Silas had noticed that the fog was so close upon them, and when Silas had in his drowsiness ceased rowing, the boat's course had been altered, and though John had tried to bear this in mind, and at that time head the boat right again, that he could not find the Betsy's nets. "Well, well, this is a supprise!" growled old Silas. "Night-a-comin' on, fog all about us and the Betsy is--I don't know whar. Whew--eh--eh!"

John now spoke. "The Betsy was not more than three miles from the shore--from home--when we left her."

"And afore mornin', boy," said old Silas, solemnly, "we may be twenty miles from shore, and--food for fishes, too."

"Then I think we will feed them farther off than we need to," said John. "But ship our oars--and--and--wait for something to turn up."

"Just my mind, boy--and--and--"

Under this dome was a lonely boat rising and falling with the sea. In the boat was an old man asleep to every sense of danger or duty. The boy in the boat had eyes wide open. It seemed to John as if in their stare those eyes must be as big as the round sunflowers in his mother's garden. Hour after hour passed, Old Silas snoring, John watching almost all the time. Suddenly John looked up and saw a star.

"Fog clearing away?" he wondered. "Oh, I hope so!" Yes, more stars shone out, and then upon the dark wall of the heavens stood out in lines of silver fire the constellation of the Great Bear. "Oh, it never looks so pretty in all my life!" declared John, springing up. "Yes, and there's the North Star. And I know which way home is, and I am going to pull for it. It will be morning before long."

He took up his oars and pulled away vigorously, singing cheerily, "Pull for the shore, sailor, Pull for the shore, sailor, Heed not the rolling waves, But bend to the oar."

The sound awoke Old Silas. "What ye--doin'?" he murmured. "Sleep away. I am good for it." Soon Old Silas was snoring away contentedly. "Click, click, click!" went the sound of John's rowing.

The gray of the dawn was creeping over the sea when John beached his boat.

"Come, Silas," said John, laying an awakening hand on the fisherman. "What--what! Whar be ye?" growled Old Silas.

"Where am I? On the beach at home. Come."

"Wall--wall! How did you git here? I was master-tired. How did you do it?"

John told him. "Boy," said Old Silas, solemnly, laying a hand on John's shoulder. "I ax yer pardon. I once said ye didn't have strength enough to lug my John's net down to your place. You have proved--that ye had strength enough. I ax your pardon."

John Sprague had "got the better" of Old Silas.

What did the Duke of Wellington do with his boots when he wore them out? Were them home again.

Mrs. Sequel--I understand that your husband can't meet his creditors. Mrs. Equal--I don't believe he wants to, especially.

Teacher--Now Tommy, tell us what the index finger is. Tommy--Yes'm; it's the 'un you lick when you turn over the pages.

Proprietor--"Don't you know it is wrong to fish here on private grounds?" "Well, sir, the line must be drawn somewhere."

Timid old lady (watching the agitated water)--Are there ever any persons lost in this river, boatman? Ferryman--Eh--eh, yer, no, we allus finds 'em again the next day.

"I'm so sorry to be late for dinner," said Mrs. Dinmore to her husband, "but I attended the meeting of the sewing circle this afternoon and couldn't get away." "Hemmed in, were you?" asked her husband.

A little girl in a suburban school was once asked by her teacher what people died, even in warm countries, when they get to the top of a mountain. "Most people," was the answer, "but that they are out of breath."

Pat--"Waiter, I can't drink this soup." The waiter took it away accordingly, and brought a fresh plate. "I can't drink this either," said Pat. So the waiter summoned the chef, who asked what was the matter with the soup. "There is nothing the matter with it," was the answer, "but I have no spoon."

A rich parvenu was once invited to a musical "At Home" at the house of a member of the aristocracy. On his return he was asked what he thought of all he had seen and heard. "Well," he answered, "those people have evidently not much money to spare. Will you believe it, the two daughters had to play together on the same piano!"

It was after the battle of Chattanooga, and the surgeons were making incisions in the leg of a soldier who had been wounded by a ball. Out of patience at last, the victim exclaimed, "Why don't you amputate me?" "To find the ball," answered a surgeon. "Why didn't you ask for it?" exclaimed the soldier, indignantly. "Here it is in my pocket."

Literary Young Man (at a party)--Miss Jones, have you seen Crabbe's "Tales?"

Young Lady (scornfully)--I was not aware that crabs had tales.

Literary Young Man (covered with confusion)--I beg your pardon, I thought I have said read Crabbe's "Tales."

Young Lady (angrily scornful)--And I was not aware that red crabs had tails either!

Equal to the Emergency--A minister's family was subjected to the infliction of calls from a female bore of the neighborhood, a certain Miss X, and when the dominie heard Miss X's voice he always kept close in his study. One day, some hours after Miss X had been announced, his wife summoned him to lunch. He called downstairs, "All right, and is that bore gone?" "Yes, dear," replied his wife, "but Miss X is here and will take lunch with us."

IN FAVOR OF THE DOCTORS.
Dr. Godbout, M. P., Beauport, Que., Speaks in Highest Terms of Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder.

When a member of the medical profession, hedged in as he is by a large measure of conservatism, expresses an opinion of a proprietary medicine, it means a good deal. Dr. Godbout, the popular member of the House of Commons, of Beauport, Quebec, speaks in highest terms of Dr. Agnew's Catarrhal Powder, not alone as a professional man, knowing the nature of this remedy, but from personal experience. He has used the medicine for catarrh, and freely lets the public know of the remarkable, speedy and effective nature of the medicine in all cases of the kind. One puff of the Powder gives relief in ten minutes.

Merely a Supposition--Hiland--"Homewood is always alluding to his great trouble. What sort of trouble is it?" "Halkit--I think it must be stomach trouble. He is always trying to Minard's Liment Cure Dan'An'z."

PROGRESS IN CHINA.

Shanghai's Tao Tai Proposes Measures for Promoting Interests.

As showing the spirit of progress that is abroad in the "Flowery Kingdom," it is interesting to learn that the Tao Tai of Shanghai has recently issued a proclamation to the Kiangsu merchants proposing that the loan at interest advanced by them to the Government should, as it fell due, be handed over to the Board of Mercantile Affairs for the promotion of mercantile enterprise, or else that the merchants themselves take the money, giving security that it be used in the establishment of such industries. This proclamation is in accordance with an imperial edict issued for the furtherance of mercantile enterprise, the idea being that "union is strength," and that by interesting the public in the above manner the movement will grow. Every factory that is established, it is stated, will stop a drain on the country's resources. Extending the system by degrees, it will secure advantages for Chinese trade, without benefiting officials in the least.

Some of the Kiangsu merchants protested that on account of their limited means they could not afford to invest their loans in this way, whereupon the Viceroy of the two Kiang Provinces sent a telegram, in which he reproaches the Chinese merchants as short-sighted and wanting in solidarity and the capacity for united effort; that the source of wealth of the European merchants is derived from their capacity for united efforts, which lead to the formation of large companies; that if the Kiangsu merchants are really in difficulties, and if it is imperative that they should receive back their ready money, they shall, after careful inquiry into their circumstances, be excused from taking shares.

It will be easily understood why the merchants would allow their money to be invested in the contemplated enterprises rather than suffer an examination into their condition, which would stamp them with the taint of insolvency. The Government "request," therefore, has all the force of an edict, and it must be assumed that the merchants throughout the Empire will invest their loans to the Government principal and interest, as they fall due, in the building of industries throughout the empire, no restrictions being placed upon the investors as to the industries to be inaugurated, the intention being to encourage China as independent as possible of foreign manufacturers and producers.

It is stated in the proclamation that the loan which should revert to the merchant of Soochow has been, in accordance with Government direction and mercantile acquiescence, already handed over to the Board of Mercantile Affairs for the purpose indicated, and that the same procedure is to follow in regard to the Shanghai merchants' loan. Thus these war loans may result in the building up of the various industries throughout China. In the inauguration and working out of these new enterprises, the Government and Government officials, it is explained have no direct interest, further than to grant whatever necessary concessions the merchants themselves may require, and the Government may see fit to allow. In another telegram to the Tao Tai of Shanghai, the Viceroy says:

"It is not expedient to make a hard and fast choice of some branch of industry, such as the manufacture of piece goods or silk filature. There is plenty of room for the development of other industries, such as the manufacture of foreign candles, foreign sugar, or foreign crockery. It will be good thing for those with small capital to manufacture several kinds of articles, with a view to accustom the popular mind (to the innovation). No capital belonging to officials will be put in, nor will other merchants or officials be mixed up in the matter. Hereafter, the merchants will manage their business as they please, and the officials will have no questions to ask. At present all that the Board of Mercantile Affairs is doing is to take charge of the money due to the merchants. As regards the war loans, to be established or what business transacted, the board has nothing to do. The above measures are proposed in obedience to the imperial edict for the furtherance of mercantile enterprise."

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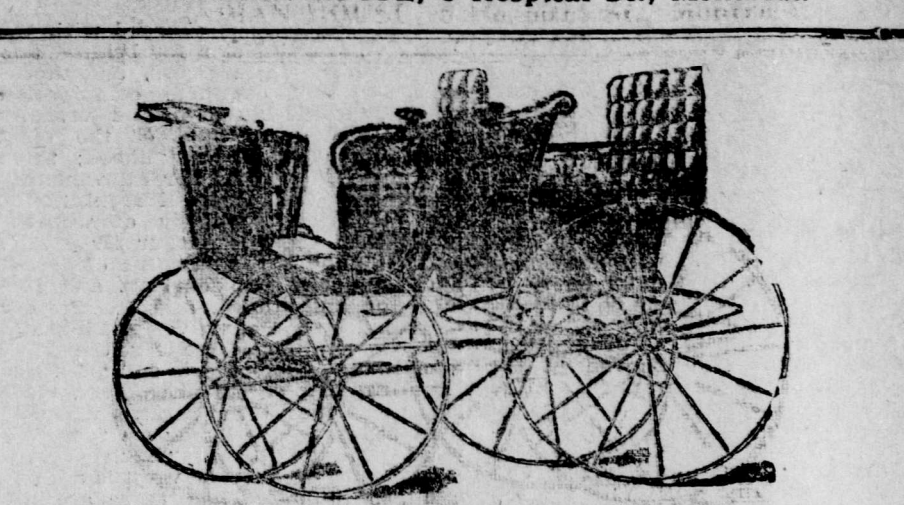
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3. Name the City in Canada having the greatest population?

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21 to 30--Solid Gold Rings (1 cut garnet 2 pearls).
31 to 40--Ladies Solid Gold Watch, value \$50.
41 to 125--Silver Butter Dish, value \$5 each.
126 to 150--Solid Gold Ring, value \$20.
151 to 160--Solid Gold Collar Buttons, value \$5 each.
161--Gentlemen Solid Gold Watch, value \$40.
162--Ladies Solid Gold Ring, pearls and turquoise, value \$5.
163 to 225--21 Solid Silver Thimbles.
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