

## THEORIES ABOUT ANDRE.

Possible Happenings That May Have Attended His Journey.

Weeks have lengthened into months since Andre disappeared, and months are growing toward the half-year mark, and still no news of him comes from the vast unknown. In such case the old rule, no news is good news, scarcely can apply. The contrary is true. Absence of news is ominous, and every day that passes without some tidings narrows the margin of reasonable hope. It is too soon yet to give him up as lost. But it is certain that he has not fared as well as he expected to, and the chances are that he has fallen at least into serious distress. So much even his most optimistic friends concede, while those who always reckoned his venture foolhardy consider their worst forebodings fully verified.

These are the data on which all reckonings of hope or fear are to be made: Andre and his two companions set sail in their balloon from Dane's Island on July 11—about six months ago—bound for the Pole and across it to the Arctic basin. The balloon contained 4900 cubic metres of gas, and was made of threefold silk and gutta-percha, with netting of Italian hemp. It had a wicker, canvas-covered car, 6 feet in diameter and 4 1/2 feet deep. The equipment included a cookstove, provisions for four months and plenty of water in aluminum cans, a sledge, a boat big enough to carry eleven men and plenty of arms and ammunition. The start was made under favorable conditions, straight toward the Pole. At the initial rate of progress the Pole should have been reached in a couple of days at most. The balloon, barring accidents, was able to keep aloft for at least two weeks. The weather for some days after the start was favorable to the prosecution of the enterprise.

Thus far the facts. All else is speculation, excepting that the balloon can surely not now be afloat, and that the voyagers if they still survive, must have exhausted the store of provisions with which they started, unless they found means of replenishing their larder. The latter is probable. We know from Nansen's experience that men with arms and ammunition can get food even in remotest North. The serious problem is, in what circumstances did they part company with the balloon? If by any mishap it collapsed or exploded in mid-air, and precipitated them suddenly from great height upon either ice or open sea, their fate is not doubtful. If, on the contrary, the balloon gradually failed, and they took their departure from it deliberately and with ample preparation, all may yet be well with them. Where they are, supposing this favorable theory to be correct is of course a mystery. Any point on all the vast circumference of the Polar basin is possible. If they were landed on the Siberian coast or the North American coast, or the upper part of Greenland, it would take months for them to work their way down to civilization. If, as some suspect from observation of the meteorological conditions prevailing since their start, they were carried back to Franz Josef Land, they would probably build a camp and remain for the winter.

There is no occasion to wonder that nothing has been seen of the forty carrier pigeons and dozens of cork buoys which Andre took with him as means of communicating with the world he had left behind him. The experiments of the Prince of Monaco have shown how slowly some ocean currents carry waifs, and indicate that it may be months yet before any of these drift into regions where they are likely to be seen. As for the pigeons, there is little reason to suppose that they could survive for even a hundred miles of flight in that inclement climate, not to mention the many hundreds they would have to traverse to reach civilized regions. There is little use in sending out search expeditions, excepting to Spitzbergen, Franz Josef Land and one or two other such points. The general sweep of the Arctic basin is far too vast for any scrutiny of it to be made. For the rest, there is only hope.—N. Y. Tribune.

## A BIRD'S PECULIAR CHOICE.

A Swallow that Made Its Nest on a Common Windmill.

A strange nesting-place was that once selected by a swallow. At Corton Lowestoft, England, Mr. Russel Coleman discovered a swallow's nest, with young birds in it, on the revolving part of the machinery of a common windmill.

The particular spot chosen was the 'wal-

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## A Nurse Cured of Dropsy.

Mrs. Isabella Richardson, a well-known nurse living at 91 Catharine Street, Hamilton, Ont., says: "Up to fifteen months ago I followed the avocation of nurse, then I was taken ill with Dropsy and Kidney trouble. My hands and feet began to swell, my blood was weak and watery and I had unbearable pain in my back. Urinary troubles caused me untold suffering, loss of sleep and pain. While in this condition I procured a box of Doan's Kidney Pills and gave them a fair trial, and am pleased to say the pain has left me, the dropsical symptoms are gone, the urinary trouble has ceased and, thanks to Doan's Kidney Pills, I am completely cured."

Be sure you get DOAN'S.

lomer,' the outer edge of one of the wheels. The revolutions averaged thirty a minute, and Mr. Coleman estimated that in that time the nest travelled about one hundred and eighty feet. The young birds would certainly be experienced travellers before they left such a nest.

The mother bird, when sitting, usually travelled tail foremost, and when she entered or left the mill she had to make use of the hole through which the laying-shaft projected. To do this it was necessary for her to dodge the sails, which were, of course, hung close to the wall of the mill. When the creaking and shaking of the machinery of a windmill is taken into account, one can hardly fail to be struck with the peculiar taste of the bird that chose such an apparently uncongenial spot in which to rear her young.

## D-O-D-D-S

THE PECULIARITIES OF THIS WORD.

No Name on Earth So Famous—No Name More Widely Imitated.

No name on earth, perhaps, is so well known, more peculiarly constructed or more widely imitated than the word DODD. It possesses a peculiarity that makes it stand out prominently and fastens it in the memory. It contains four letters, but only two letters of the alphabet. Everyone knows that the first kidney remedy ever patented or sold in pill form was DODD'S. Their discovery startled the medical profession the world over, and revolutionized the treatment of kidney diseases. No imitator has ever succeeded in constructing a name possessing the peculiarity of DODD, though they nearly all adopt names as similar as possible in sound and construction to this. Their foolishness prevents them realizing that attempts to imitate increase the fame of 'Dodd's Kidney Pills.' Why is the name 'Dodd's Kidney Pills' imitated? As well ask why are diamonds and gold imitated. Because diamonds are the most precious gems, gold the most precious metal. Dodd's Kidney Pills are imitated because they are the most valuable medicine the world has ever known.

No medicine was ever named kidney pills till years of medical research gave Dodd's Kidney Pills to the world. No medicine ever cured Bright's disease except Dodd's Kidney Pills. No other medicine has cured as many cases of Rheumatism, Diabetes, Heart disease, Lumbago, Dropsy, Female Weakness, and other kidney diseases as Dodd's Kidney Pills have. It is universally known that they have never failed to cure these diseases, hence they are so widely and shamelessly imitated.

Found a Target Ready.

A resident of Sherman place made his young son a present of a revolver. It was pretty cold for accurate target practice out of doors yesterday, so the lad betook himself to the cellar. There he found a nice target, three white disks on a black background, and began practice. He landed three bullets in the target before practice was interrupted. But he had done the business for the gas meter and a new one was ordered. The cost of the lad's revolver practice is placed at \$16. exclusive of ammunition and kindly counsel to the selection of targets.—N. Y. Sun.

Souris, Man., Sept. 21, 1896.

Messrs. Edmanson, Bates & Co., Dear Sirs,—I find your goods taking remarkably well with my customers and they appear to give every satisfaction, as indicated by the fact of our having sold one half gross of your Kidney-Liver Pills alone during the month of August.

S. S. Smith, Souris, Man.

The Untrustworthy Liar.

Coming in the Painesville car the other morning two real estate dealers were 'talking shop.'

'I heard a man get off a pretty good thing about Dash and Blank the other day,' said one of them.

'What was it?' the other asked.

'He said, 'I'd much rather deal with Dash than with Blank.' 'Why so?' I inquired. 'You know Dash is a man whom you can't believe under any circumstances.' 'That's the very reason I prefer him to Blank. Dash lies all the time, so you're never fooled by him, but Blank lies only half the time, and the great trouble is that you never know when he's doing it.'



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## LORD LUCAN HAD BLUNDERED.

Incidents of the Famous Charge of the Light Brigade.

The occurrence of the forty-third anniversary of the famous charge of the British Light Brigade at Balaklava has led to a summing up of the events of that occasion by an English periodical. This account is a frank confession of the extraordinarily bad management of the British commanders, as well as a new statement of the undoubted valor of the British soldiers who participated in the fight.

Lord Lucan, who commanded the division in which was the Light Brigade, had never seen any war service, though he was between fifty and sixty years of age. He was moreover, accustomed to think a long time before he did anything—a quality not always desirable in a military commander. Lord Cardigan, who commanded the Light Brigade, was also a 'carpet-knight,' without war experience. He was older than Lord Lucan, and although he and Lord Lucan were brothers-in-law, they were bitter enemies.

The Light Brigade was not so very light, for some of the men, with the heavy saddles and other equipments then in vogue, rode their horses at three hundred and eight pounds in marching order. It was quite a sum of shreds and patches of other regiments—a squadron from the Queen's Own Light Dragoons, one from the English Hussars, and so on; one of the squadrons belonged to what were called the Whitewashers, on account of the profuse white facings on the uniforms.

The Russians under General Liprandi had been menacing the position of the allies near the village of Balaklava, and had taken some British guns from the Turks. Their advance had been checked by the charge of the Heavy Brigade—very much better war than the subsequent charge of the Light Brigade, but not so 'magnificent'. In retiring, after the charge of the 'Heavy', the Russians had these guns with them, in a somewhat exposed situation, and Lord Raglan, the British commander-in-chief, sent a written order by Captain Nolan to Lord Lucan to send the Light Brigade to take them.

This Captain Nolan was a dashing officer who had written several works on cavalry instruction; he regarded himself as a great soldier, and felt a contempt, which he had freely avowed, for both Lord Lucan and Lord Cardigan. Captain Nolan rode up to Lord Lucan, and repeated the order he had brought to 'take the guns.'

'What guns?' asked Lord Lucan. The captain turned on him in contempt. He was delighted to have an opportunity to snub a superior officer whom he despised.

'You have your men, my lord, there are the guns; go and take them!' he said, tossing his head in the general direction of the field.

At the opposite end of the ridge from that on which were the captured guns, the Russians had their position well protected with a battery of twenty or more of their own guns. There were also strong flanking batteries on neighboring hills. Mailed by an impertinent subaltern, and without the guidance of wisdom and experience, this 'carpet-general' ordered his brother-in-law, carpet-knight like himself, to charge with his brigade the main Russian position!

'Very well, my lord, it shall be done,' said Cardigan, and advanced with the brigade.

When Captain Nolan, returning to Lord Raglan saw the Light Brigade riding toward the main battery, he was horrified, and turned back to correct this terrible mistake. He was on his way when a shell struck and killed him. He had expiated his offence with his life.

Cardigan and the Light Brigade rode on. The story of the attack is in the main, allowing for the license of poetry, truly told in Tennyson's 'Charge of the Light Brigade.' The brigade drove the Russians from their guns, but of course could not take them away. Meantime the Russians closed in on the rear, cutting off the British from their own forces. They could only turn and fight their way back. Only one hundred and ninety-eight out of six hundred and seventy brave troopers ever came back. Lord Cardigan himself returned alone. He had been separated from his men from the first moment of the shock of the charge. After that it had been every man for himself. He has been charged with deserting his men, but he was really cut off from them.

When the remnant of the brigade was drawn up, Cardigan rode in front of the men.

'It has been a mad-brained trick,' he said, bitterly, almost apologetically, 'but it was no fault of mine!'

Lord Cardigan was not popular with his men. He had at times had nearly every one of them under arrest for trifling infringement of military order; he had no other military distinction than that of a martinet; but no soldiers voice blamed him now. 'Never mind, my lord,' said some of men; 'we are ready to go again!'

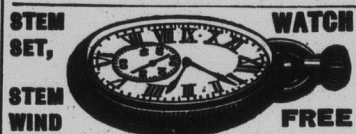
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