

The Colonist.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 1891.

CHRISTIAN COURTESY.

Some people, who are ecclesiastically exclusive, will be greatly shocked to learn that the wife and daughters of the Archbishop of Canterbury, a week or two ago, called to enquire about the health of that arch-conformist, Mr. Spurgeon. The ladies of the Archbishop's household, no doubt with his consent, and at his desire, took this considerate way of showing their solicitude and their sympathy. That Mr. Gladstone, who is an ardent, as well as an eminent member of the Established Church, should write a kind and sympathetic note to the dissenting clergyman, who was, to all appearance, on his death-bed, was a small matter. Uncharitable people might say that there was an alloy of policy in this courteous and neighborly act, but nothing but kindly feeling and Christian sympathy could have actuated the Archbishop of Canterbury and his family in showing that they shared the general anxiety with respect to the afflicted clergyman. It is acts like these which show that the gulf which once divided churchmen from dissenters, in England, is closing. "These," says an American contemporary, "are pleasant incidents, because the moment differences of religious belief are regarded as but honest differences of opinion, and are not deprecated and denounced as impeding the soul's salvation, the kingdom of heaven is visibly nearer."

THE COMING MAN.

Some days ago we were taken to task by the Vancouver World for having had the audacity to say a good word for Mr. Balfour, and for what he has done for Ireland. We were bitterly reproached and accused of being actuated by the meanest motives because we did not attribute the changes he had effected and the good he had done to his political opponents. We have been always under the impression that a statesman was entitled to credit for the beneficial results of his policy; and the more bitterly he was opposed, and the more formidable the obstacles that were placed in his way, the greater praise he deserved when his measures proved to be successful. Every one knows how violent and how unscrupulous was the opposition which Mr. Balfour had to meet. It is seldom that a statesman has had from the outset of his career to face so many and such unrelenting enemies. The opposition to his policy was not in Parliament alone. In every part of the country, whose affairs he administered, men were encouraged and, indeed, forced to make his efforts to preserve the peace and to enforce the laws ineffectual. Such fierce and incessant hostility would have discouraged many men. But Mr. Balfour is evidently one of those men who do not know what failure means. In spite of violence and abuse and misrepresentation and conspiracy, and amidst fiercest agitation, directed against his policy and against himself, personally, Mr. Balfour steadily and fearlessly carried out his measures. He never wavered for a moment. He was always cool and calm, and, apparently, contemptuous; but he was always resolute. He never yielded an inch to clamor or turbulence. After a long and a trying struggle he has his reward. He is at least understood and he is successful. This is what the London Times says about his administration of Irish affairs and its results:

"Few Ministers have at any time won more numerous or brilliant victories than Mr. Balfour has achieved within quite recent years. It is but four years and a half since, as a comparatively young and untried man, he had the courage to accept the office of Irish Secretary. This dangerous honor has too often proved the grave of reputations, and of late, at all events, politicians, however eminent and experienced, who have contrived to discharge its arduous duties without manifest loss of credit, have been universally considered more than commonly fortunate. Mr. Balfour did not shrink from entering upon the post at a time of peculiar peril, and in the course of four critical and eventful years he has known how to secure to himself the enthusiastic admiration of his own party, the hearty approval of the nation, and the sincere respect of his adversaries. Striking, however, as have been his many triumphs as a statesman, as an administrator, and as an orator, it may well be doubted if any of them can have filled his breast with feelings of such deep and enduring satisfaction as that which he has achieved in the successful battle with Irish poverty which he described to Parliament yesterday. The struggle was a fierce one, and the victory was hardly gained, but it has been gained, and that victory, as the unanimous voice of Mr. Balfour's most bitter political opponents has now unhesitatingly declared, was due to the cause of his success. The Chief Secretary for Ireland has baffled the spectre of Irish distress by the provident foresight and statesmanlike sagacity of his counsels and the unwearied energy of his action."

If anyone, two years ago, were to say that the Secretary for Ireland, "Bloody Balfour" was a kind-hearted man, who would be ready, promptly, wisely and considerately, to relieve distress in Ireland, he would be laughed to scorn. He would most likely be told that Mr. Balfour was a heartless cynic, who would be much more likely to take a fiendish pleasure in seeing Irishmen starve than to lift a hand or spend a shilling to allay their suffering or to provide them with permanent employment. But when Irishmen were really in distress; when they had nothing to eat, and did not know where to look for either work or food, this "pigmy Czar," this "filthy-handed" and "Calliglo-headed" Balfour devised measures for their relief, and went to Ireland to see that they were carried into effect. The judicious and kindly way in which he did this good work first won the hearts of the priests living in the distressed districts, and, afterwards, he made the people he benefited his friends.

He overcame dislike, and even hostility in the noblest as well as the most effective way possible. Even the professional agitators in Parliament, a very great part of whose political capital is loudly and vehemently expressed hatred of Balfour, are compelled to speak well of his exertions in relieving Irish distress. The Vancouver World says that Mr. Gladstone is entitled to credit for the success that has attended Mr. Balfour's policy. We are very sure that Mr. Gladstone makes no such claim, and we would be greatly disappointed in him if he does not embrace the first opportunity that offers itself eloquently to commend the Secretary for Ireland for what he has done to relieve Irish distress.

A RAIN-PRODUCER.

The weather is a subject in which mankind from time immemorial has taken the greatest interest. It has been carefully studied by men of all countries and all races, and in every stage of civilization. Its changes were generally attributed to causes for the most part mysterious and deeply hidden. The moon has always been supposed to have a great influence over it. But, generally speaking, it has been admitted that, to effect changes in it, was beyond the power of man. It is true that among some northern nations it was believed that witches could in some way control the winds, and rain-making is part of the sorcery of the medicine men of savage tribes. Among civilized men, however, science has given up the weather for a bad job. The wind bloweth where it listeth now, as it did two thousand years ago, and rain does not always come when it is prayed for. There are rainless deserts in many parts of the earth; and no man, not even the wisest, can tell when or where the drought is to come.

In these latter days, however, a man has arisen who claims to be able to make the rain fall on the dry places as often and as plentifully as he pleases. He declares that in rainless regions he can make the rain fall in such abundance as to cause lakes to be formed where there is nothing now but bare rock or thirsty sand. The name of this modern worker of wonders is Frank Melbourne. He does not use prayers, or spells, or any form of the "black art," to bring the rain. His process is a purely scientific one. By projecting certain chemical substances into the atmosphere, he, as he asserts, can change it in such a way that it must discharge the moisture it contains on the earth in the form of rain. He uses a machine of his own invention, which he keeps carefully out of sight; and, of course, the composition of his rain-making mixture is a secret known only to himself. He is willing, however, to part with this secret for one million dollars. If his mixture possesses the virtues which he claims for it, it would be cheap at ten, or indeed, one hundred times that sum. In fact, the precious secret is literally invaluable.

He asserts that he has produced rain with his apparatus in Australia, where the idea of rain-making occurred to him, and where he thought out and perfected his extraordinary invention. It strikes us, and we dare say it will strike others, that the Australians must be a dreadfully sceptical people, as well as a phenomenally foolish one, to have permitted Melbourne to fool them, and to have permitted him to leave their country with his wonderful invention. A machine that can produce rain when it is needed would convert Australia into an earthly paradise. The great drawback to the prosperity of the inhabitants of that continent is the droughts to which it is subject. Let the fear of droughts be taken away, and the lot of the Australian farmer and herdsman and sheep-raiser would be one of unalloyed happiness. Yet they had Melbourne, "the rain king," among them, and they permitted him to leave their country. They must, indeed, be a faithless generation.

This worker of wonders is now quiet near overseas. He is in the state of Ohio. Why have not the Californians sent for him, and agreed to give him his million twice told. With a proper number of rain-making machines in full blast there would be no arid lands in California, and, for the matter of that, anywhere else. British Columbia might receive great benefit from Melbourne's invention. If it were in use in parts of this province there would be no more talk of boring artesian wells, and the cattle and other stock would not be at times suffering for want of grass in some of its most fertile districts. Why does not some government or some association of philanthropists give Frank Melbourne the million he asks? Are they going to allow the world to suffer and millions upon millions of acres of good land to remain unproductive for the want of a paltry million of dollars?

Which are the Sisters?

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 12.—The sailing of the str. St. Paul, which it had been said would leave a few days since for Unalak, and points further north, has been deferred until next Saturday. The steamer will carry, among other things, supplies to the mission schools, and also additional supplies to the steamer Alki, the prison ship for sealers. A dispatch was received by Goodall, Perkins & Co. this morning from Captain Plummer of the Alki, that he had left Unalak on August 4th, for Sitka, with two captured sealers in tow. The information comes from the steamer Lakme, by way of Port Townsend.

Fatal Accidents at London.

LONDON, Oct. 11.—The sixteen-year-old son of Mr. Clark, cheese buyer of London South, and Herbert G. Clark, were killed by being thrown from a wagon during a runaway. A young Englishman, Ellis Hayden, nephew of Rev. E. B. Lancelotti, was drowned, yesterday, while bathing. James Nixon was killed, yesterday, on his father's farm Holden township.

THE AGE OF ELECTRICITY.

"Bobtail Cars" Have Passed from the Stage of Events—Electric Roads Everywhere.

Improvements Contemplated by the Tramway Company—A Visit to Johnston, Pa.

"Electric railways have come to stay, and are fast superseding all others on the streets of eastern cities." So says Hon. D. W. Higgins, president of the National Electric Tramway and Lighting Company, who completed his tour of the Middle and Eastern States' cities, last evening. During his trip he visited Denver, St. Louis, Kansas City, Chicago, Toronto, Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and many other thriving centres of population. In a number of cities, the cable lines are being abandoned and replaced by electric systems; horses and mules are no longer anywhere. In a few places are the roads in better condition than at home; on New York's famous Broadway, the track is rougher than on any portion of road operated by the Victoria company. All other considerations are giving way to rapid transit in eastern cities, and in many the streets have become a gridiron of tram tracks. In Cleveland, where the electric system has reached its highest development, the cars run every half minute, and the use of the public parks is entered from every side.

Little improvement has been made on the general system adopted by the company here; for the present, wires are indispensable to a satisfactory service. The storage battery has been tried, but as yet found wanting. The Fourth avenue cars, which were equipped with storage batteries, now lie neglected in a corner of the yard, and the children of the neighborhood use their play-houses in them. The batteries proved too heavy to be carried, and the cars could never be run more than four hours, without plates buckling, and any number of complications arising. Since Mr. Higgins was in East last, some two years ago, tremendous advances in electrical development have been recorded, and now every factory in the land is blocked with orders for supplies, coming from every side. The electric car, which is now being looked upon as a thing of the future, is now being looked upon as a thing of the past.

Never content unless constantly improving the efficiency of their lines, the company, of which Mr. Higgins is head, now have on the way the rails for the extension to Johnston, Pa. The new line will be a double track, and will be a purely scientific one. By projecting certain chemical substances into the atmosphere, he, as he asserts, can change it in such a way that it must discharge the moisture it contains on the earth in the form of rain. He uses a machine of his own invention, which he keeps carefully out of sight; and, of course, the composition of his rain-making mixture is a secret known only to himself. He is willing, however, to part with this secret for one million dollars. If his mixture possesses the virtues which he claims for it, it would be cheap at ten, or indeed, one hundred times that sum. In fact, the precious secret is literally invaluable.

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AMERICAN NEWS.

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county on Monday afternoon. The crops in its path, barns, houses and other buildings were damaged. At Latham a new elevator, about completed, was leveled. The loss is estimated at about \$30,000.

Houston, Tex., Aug. 12.—Reports from Yokum and Lexington state that a terrible storm swept over those sections, yesterday. Houses were leveled and blown down, and stock killed.

Indianapolis, Aug. 12.—The storm which raged in this county, last evening, did incalculable damage to crops and property generally.

Ordered to Yokohama. The Charleston has been ordered to Yokohama, to sail on the 18th. She will go in dock and be given new coal of Japan. She is called there by the missionary troubles. There are a few repairs to make on her. The sailmakers were put to work on her sails, to-day, and new stores are being taken on. Her complement must be reduced to 100 men, and the engines were to be completely overhauled, but this has been postponed by these orders.

A Gigantic Swindle. Chicago, Aug. 10.—Alfred Downing, N. H. Tollman, and three young women, typewriters, of the National Savings, Building and Loan Association, were arrested to-day, and all the books and papers of the concern seized. It is also charged that the association is a gigantic swindle, and that thousands of dollars have been taken from confident investors from all parts of the country. The company had agents at Denver, Portland, Olympia, San Francisco and many other cities.

THE STATE OF WASHINGTON. Happenings Across the Sound—Silver Bullion Stolen at Tacoma—The Great Northern Reaches Mount Vernon.

SILVER BULLION STOLEN. Tacoma, Aug. 11.—The facts regarding a peculiar theft of 1,000 pounds of bullion, at the Tacoma Smelting and Refining Works, leaked out this evening, although every effort has been made to keep the matter quiet, in the hope of throwing the thieves off their guard. For a couple of days two suspicious characters have been looking over the smelter plant, with dozens of other visitors, and it is thought they located the spot where the bullion was stored, near the engine house, where the bullion is stored up. At night, that part of the works is dark in places, and although workmen are constantly moving about at all hours, the thieves managed to get up from the above unperceived, and carry away ten pigs of bullion, each weighing 100 pounds, and valued at from \$1,000 to \$1,500. The bullion has the name of the smelter stamped upon it, and cannot be marketed without detection, unless the thief is very clever. The police are looking for the thief, and the thief is looking for the police.

TACOMA HARBORINGS. Tacoma, Aug. 11.—John D. Ringle, aged 38, a Spokane merchant, died, last night, at the Fannie Paddock hospital, after a four weeks' siege of typhoid fever. The remains have been shipped to Rochester, N. Y., where his wife is waiting for him. E. E. Ellis has been presented by his brother, W. E. Ellis, of Winnipeg, with the horns of two red deer; that were "so firmly fixed in the skull while fighting, that they could not be separated. Both animals were eaten by wolves.

Quarters on the Smith & Fife addition in this city, title to which is in dispute, have been vacated or paid rent. Trouble is feared if an attempt is made to eject them by force.

Owing to so many applications for space being made, the room allotted to exhibitors at the exposition building will be readjusted. Space is guaranteed to all who apply within ten days.

The Northern Pacific railroad will at once begin the construction of twenty miles of telegraph line west from Chehalis on the South Bend branch.

GREY BULLION REACHES MT. VERNON. Mount Vernon, Aug.—The draw on the railroad bridge across the Skagit river, which caused a delay in trucking for the Great Northern for the past three days, was swung into place this morning, and the trucking crew at once resumed work, and this morning had reached the corporate limits of the city.

A BIG MILL FLEW FALLOUT. DAYTON, Wash., Aug. 11.—At 5:30 to-day 1,700 feet of the Portland Mill Company's flume fell with a crash. The flume has been completely and the mill started to run for the summer. The loss is about \$8,000. Fortunately for the bookkeeper, C. Ellis, he went to supper ten minutes earlier than usual. The mill office was shattered twenty inches from its foundations, and the bookkeeper's office was blown down and completely demolished. He would have been killed. The flume was not properly braced and the strain of the water demolished it.

A TACOMA MERCHANT DROWNED. SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 11.—A body, supposed to be that of J. H. Morris, a hard-worked dealer in fish, was recovered from the bay to-day. The remains had evidently been in the water for about two weeks. In the pockets of the dead man's clothes several bills were found, made out in the name of J. H. Morris. There was also a cabin check for the steamer Haytian Republic, which left Tacoma on July 6th.

MISSING MONEY PACKAGE RECOVERED. Tacoma, Aug. 11.—A package containing \$800, which has been missing for several days, has been found by the Northern Pacific Express company. The package was lost on the coast and was found in a safe, and the official who handled it has been discharged on account of negligence.

HAWLEY BROS., TACOMA DRUGGISTS, FAIL. Tacoma, Aug. 11.—Hawley Bros., druggists, have assigned to L. J. Pentecost. The assets are \$3,053; liabilities, \$2,552. The creditors include Tacoma, Portland, San Francisco, Minneapolis, St. Louis and Boston wholesale houses.

RODY RECOVERED. PORTLAND, Aug. 11.—Word was received from Sea View, Wash., this morning, that the body of W. J. Steele, who, together with Miss Nellie Boies, was drowned at that place, last Wednesday, while bathing, has been recovered.

Another Liberal Returned. LONDON, Aug. 12.—Charles Fortier (Liberal) was held, to-day, at Walsall, and the Liberal candidate, Holden, (Gladstonian), received 4,861 votes; James (Conservative), receiving 4,361.

Storms on the Prairie. LINCOLN, Ill., Aug. 12.—A cyclone prevailed in the southeastern part of Logan

RIOTS IN CHINA.

Catholic Churches Destroyed—The Militia Ordered Out for the Protection of Property.

French and British Ministers Claiming Indemnity for the Losses Caused by the Riots.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 11.—The steamship Oceanic arrived this evening from Hongkong and Yokohama. Advice from Hongkong up to July 15th state that a fire of discontent is still smoldering in North China, and occasional riots are reported. Mission stations, near Canton, are said to have been attacked, but no particulars have been received. Two of the Vanchu rioters on trial voluntarily confessed that they murdered two foreigners, Green and Argent, during the Wanchu riots. The two prisoners were accordingly sent back to the Kuang Chi district, and executed July 5th. Their heads are hung up at Wanchu as a warning to other evil-doers. A correspondent at Tientsin writes under date of June 29th that all is quiet there, and no trouble is anticipated. Comparative quiet seems to have been restored in the Yang-tee valley, and several foreign gunboats have left for other stations.

A correspondent at Tsing-Kiang, under date of June 27th, writes that the victory wrote to the officials here that the residences of foreigners should be searched, to see if they had any babies or dead peones bones about. The search was made, and no babies were found, but a crowd of excited natives waited outside. The mob broke into the Catholic mission, but were put out by the occupants. Mr. Challant, holding the rioters at bay with a revolver. The authorities finally sent the militia to the scene, and the soldiers guarded the missions all night.

On July 4th news came by telegraph from the southern part of the province of the French missionaries, that a serious rioting. In this section Catholics have large property interests, many fine churches and a large orphanage. Several of these have been destroyed by the mob. The French missionaries were ordered out of the house, entered a church and hid. The mob searched the house and made everything, but did not burn the buildings. The amount of damage done is not known, but it is learned that the French missionaries were not touched. Soldiers have been ordered out, and the streets are being guarded by Romanist police. The town is now left without a gunboat and a feeling of uneasiness prevails.

A telegram from Tien-tsin states that the French and British ministers in China have opened negotiations with Taug Yi Yamen in regard to the claim for indemnity on account of the recent riots. The sum claimed is 6,500,000 taels.

BALFOUR'S HOME RULE SCHEME.

Local Government and Free Franchise With-out Control of Police—Press Opinions.

LONDON, Aug. 12.—Balfour, Chief Secretary for Ireland, in a speech delivered at Plymouth on Monday, outlined his ideas of Irish local government. He was aware that many members of the Conservative party disliked the proposal, but he argued there were two reasons why local government should not be withheld from Ireland. The first, a sentimental one, because it had already been given to Scotland and England; the second, because local government had been repeatedly promised Ireland. Balfour declared it would be madness to allow the councils to administer the funds of any county or borough, and that such a permission would convert them into engines of tyranny and oppression. The police question, he continued, caused alarm, but he would never consent to a decentralization of force by handing over the police to either a council or to councils in association with a grand jury. He further believed there would be no serious attempt by the counties to secure control of so costly a force. He was compelled to admit that he feared the first result of a change would be to oust the landlords from a share in the government, even though they guarded the councils by some form of minority representation. He said he was pained, but he trusted and believed as the political storms subsided, and as ancient rancor is forgotten, the gradual effect of the land purchase measure would be felt, and that some general Irish council would be largely recognized and elected as the best men to carry on the county business and thus reconcile the classes, which had been too much and too long separated.

The Secretary said that his declaration regarding the Irish police removes the gravest objection to the bill, but that still remains a great deal to justify the Irish loyalists' misgivings, and that it will be desirable to introduce measures to guarantee the upright management of the finances. The Times says his clear, vivid perception of the dangers of the scheme is the best possible guarantee that Balfour is not to copy the mistakes of his predecessors.

The News says: We gather from Balfour's vague remarks that there will be no fancy franchises and no artificial restrictions upon the choice of electors. However cautiously he framed the bill will eventually strengthen the demand for home rule and make the crimes at a more ridiculous farce than ever.

The Chronicle presumes the intention is to make the Irish franchise narrower than the English, and emphatically opposes any such policy. Ireland, it says, is entitled to absolute equality.

DRAWING RAIN FROM THE SKIES.

The United States Expeditious Proves the Creation of a Theory.

MIDLAND, Tex., Aug. 11.—The United States department of agriculture rainfall expedition has so far made two successful experiments. One of the party, in an interview, said to-day: "Saturday and Sunday the preliminary trial of a part of the rain-making apparatus was had, and about ten hours after the explosion, heavy clouds gathered and rain fell over many miles of surface. We do not think the explosions actually produced storms, but they were undoubtedly instrumental in precipitating the moisture which the clouds brought to the locality, and greatly increased the intensity of the storm. The amount of precipitation was the greatest in the vicinity of the operation. We will continue to make tests to ascertain the density of atmosphere, so that bombs may be adapted to every possible condition. When sufficiently satisfied upon these and similar points, decisive experiments will be made. The rain, to-day, was the first good rain in this vicinity for several months."

At the New Home. Mrs. Wickwire—Oh, Henry! And I told you so particularly before we chose a house to be sure the chimneys didn't smoke.

Mr. Wickwire—Well, this one doesn't come outside and see for yourself.

DEMI-NEWSY FOREIGN NOTES.

Russian peasants will be prohibited by law shortly from selling or mortgaging their lands.

A DISPATCH from Zanzibar says the conclusion of a treaty with the prominent chiefs by which the latter agree to abolish slavery at Vitu is officially announced.

An association has been established in London to send colonies of poor Jews to Palestine. So many are going to Jerusalem that it is one of the most rapidly growing cities in the world.

GAMBLING at Monte Carlo still flourishes. The capital stock of its great playhouse is six million of dollars, and the stockholders have just received a dividend of thirty-two per cent. for the past year.

A CURIOUS epidemic has appeared among the natives of Grigoland. It is alarmed by any sudden noise, such as a whistle or shout, the natives will start violently, contract their features and stiffen their limbs, jump about and wail like derelicts.

A SENATION has been caused in the German foreign office by a suit brought by a broker named Jacobson against a barrister named Neumann for 2,000 marks' commission for securing Neumann a position in the service. Neumann has been dismissed on account of the scandal.

In Germany experiments have recently been made with small locomotives for towing heavy loads on canals. Instead, however, of attaching the rope to the locomotive it is attached to a heavy towing car, which is drawn by the locomotive. The plan is said to be satisfactory.

THE HINDOOS are about to adopt a modern notion in forming a "Hindoo tourists' party" for visiting Europe, America, China, Japan and the States.

JAPAN had a plethora of epidemics during 1890. Influenza reached her shores in February. Cholera followed with over 31,000 deaths. Dysentery affected 38,878 persons, with 7,392 deaths, a ratio of 18.94 per cent. Typhoid fever caused 23,754 times, with 5,569 deaths, 23.50 per cent.

LEIPZIG is to have an international exposition in the summer of 1893 for the apparatus and methods of the Red Cross societies, the most improved means of feeding and clothing soldiers, hygiene, and popular cooking. It will be in the Crystal palace, a structure of about twice the size of Madison Square garden.

THE SEASON'S SMILES.

Mrs. DeFlat—"What is that horrid smell?" Mr. DeFlat—"I judge from the odor that it's one of those odorous old stoves."

PASSENGER—"Conductor, why don't you call out the stations plainer?" Conductor—"Say, this road don't hire me for an elocutionist, see?"

LITTLE EDITH—"Mamma, what's a poorhouse?" Mamma—"A poorhouse, Edith, is an imaginary place of pupa's, where he intends residing next week."

The Fetish Man Abroad.

When abroad the fetish man is always a conspicuous figure in a village. He wears a tall hat of animal skin; around his neck hang suspended by strings a few small specimens of his wares, and slung around his shoulders are little parcels of charms, into which are struck beads' feathers. Metal rings, to which mysterious little packages are attached, clash and clang as he walks, serving, together with a liberal supply of iron bells fastened to his person, to announce the N'ganga's presence; and, as if his body did not offer a sufficient surface to display all his magical outfit, he carries, slung over his left shoulder, in a woven pocket, a load of wonder-working material. A peep into a fetish man's sack discloses a curious assortment of preventives—eggs' claws and feathers, fishbones, antelope horns, leopard teeth, tails and heads of snakes, flint stones, hairs of the elephant's tail, bone in his mouth. The "grub" that day had been particularly bad, and the sight of the chicken bone was more than I could stand. I didn't capture the bone, but received instead another walloping from the captain, who had witnessed the occurrence.

We were only a week's distance from port. The ship was being generally scraped and painted, and I was to my lot to manipulate the tar barrel. This consisted of stirring the mess about, with a heavy bar, as one would churn butter. Both the captain and mate had gone below for dinner. The tar barrel was about amiships. I looked around and discovered Jerry quietly sleeping, spread out on the main hatch.

I don't know what put it into my head, but I wondered how Jerry would like it if—There was a sudden movement on my part, a sound of scuffling, which brought the mate out to see what was the matter. I was pounding away at the tar barrel for dear life.

"Here, don't work so hard at that tar," exclaimed the mate. I then relaxed my efforts. There were three feet of soft tar in that barrel, and I have since wondered whether they ever found the remains of Jerry at the bottom. They certainly didn't during