#### The World's' Strangest Peoples

CIGHT DAYS' WEEPING AT CEN-TRAL AFRICAN WEBDINGS.

Anyone who set out to find the st peculiar people in the world uld have to go among the wilds of ntral Africa. There in the virgin, wastes and forests are

clated with marriage ceremonic Bahuma tribesmen in Ankele nda. usually purchases his wife by ns of a dowry of a certain numof cattle, which are paid to the forbidding him to have more than

The women are unusually fat, as ulence is looked upon as a sign beauty. Girls, before marriage, not allowed to walk about, and are uraged to drink as much milk they can in order that they may ome as fat as possible, before their fianced husbands come to claim facin. The fatter they are the bigger marriage dowry the parents reeive. Many of these women almost se the power of walking.

A bride shows that she accepts the ridegroom as her husband by taking mouthful of milk and squirting it over him. Up to this time she has probably never seen the man, so that there is no question of love; expediency and custom alone prompt the parties to enter their new estate.

When the bridegroom brings his bride home she is accompanied by number of girl friends, who remain with her two or three days. When the bridegroom goes to see his bride the girl friends contest his entrance; they fight him and his companion biting and scratching them.

The pretended protest is very probably the remnant of an old custom of marriage by cauture, and the Rev. John Roscoe, in "The Soul of Central Africa" (Cassell), describes ceremony still more resembling those of the barbaric ages.

When, in the other case referred to the bridegroom goes to take away his bride a strong rope is produced by one of the bride's relatives and tied to the bride's leg. Sidee are then Shosen by members of the bride's and bridegroom's clans and a tug-of-Par takes place. The bride's clan truggle to retain their sister and the bridegroom's clan strive to carry her

During this contest the bride stands weeping because she is taken from her old home and relatives: it is the correct thing to do. The bridegroom stands by her, holding her hand, and when the final pull is given, in his favour, he slips the rope from her ankle and hurries her away.

At the age of four mo usually bespoken in marriage. Some father in another clan presents her parents with one or two cows and she is thereupon betrothed to his son. A girl is the special care of a mother, who gives her a name, taking her to the door and pointing out the four corners of the globe as the quarters from which her wealth comes

Among another tribe—the Bageauthe girls are not more than ten when they begin to prepare for marriage. This preparation consists of a lengthy and painful process of cutting marks in the chest and forehead. They carry about large needles with which they make the wounds. Ashes are then rubbed in, thick hard lumps being raised.

These markings the girl considers essential. Men too consider them as a sign of heauty in a wife No man would think of marrying a girl who did not show these markings, and the girl is not admitted into the society of her elders until they are complet-

in deadly enmity except during the festival, after harvest, where all feast and drink together for as long as the native beer lasts.

A young woman always sleeps across the foot of the bed of the King of the Bunyoro tribe, so that his Majesty's foot might rest against her and run no risk of touching the end of the bed, or of being exposed. In the early morning the girl gets up and anoints the king's toes.

The rain-makers of the Bunyoro often find it a hard task to keep their jobs. If they fail to bring rain when called upon, the king makes them sit in the broiling sun, where they have to eat specially salted food, which brings on agonies of thirst, When



tered Feet, Sore Feet, Tired Feet,

tramp and your feet are completely used up, bathe them in hot water, then rub them well with MINARD'S LINIMENT. It will relieve you and you will never be without abottle. point of capturing the bride,

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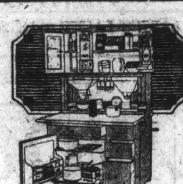
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| į |  |
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|   | There are only a very few of these Sideboards left<br>they went quickly. A finely made piece of furniture. |
|   | Sideboard, Surface Oak, finely finished, 14 x 26 British Bevelled Plate Mirror.                            |
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This week our store has almost boundless interest for those who like to save largely. Among the beautiful furniture offered are some articles whose prices have been reduced more than 50 per cent. All this monththe end of which closes our Make-

Room Sale-we are determined to make

things interesting for shrewd buyers. We have gone through all our stock, and put the knife very deep into the price of each item, so that every article is a genuine 100 p.c. pure bargain

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they beg for mercy, the only reply the weather-expert fails to bring sup-shine, he is forced to drink tremen-

Still stranger customs, especially in regard to marriage, are observed by the Wakikayu tribe. Among this tribe a marriage seems to be an event of sorrow rather than joy.

Forty to sixty goats is the Forty to sixty goats is the usual price paid for a bride. It is considered a disgree for a girl to remain a spinster at eighteen. The bridegroom

Bergh in "On the Trail of the Pig-mies" (T. Fisher Unwin), "but her ef-

fights and weeps continually. "After she has been placed in the but she weeps for eight days more, dous quantities of water until the rain forts are, of course, fruitless. No one in this country maintain that the this lachrymal outpurst, but I fancy hat the tears are caused by no very

> but perhaps this is also only part of the pretence, because she is back with her husband the same day. The bride's girl-friends then come and

weep endlessly. Altogether the husband's lot does not seem to be envi-

mong these peoples. A man white on his way to a neighbouring

unwillingness of a spirit to permit that they live little above or beyond the nonkers. They live nearly all throws a lump of earth at her husthand, the act is taken to mean that game is always big animals like elene despises him. He then asks for a phants.

orce, which is invariably granted.

Try this Cure?

The Wakeamba tribe, in meting out justice, favour forms of ordeal which are similar to the early English system of trying a case. The medicineman heats a piece of iron, which is handed to the accused. If the man is but, he is dealered to the accused. urt, he is declared to be guilty. Yet

such large animals with their small bows and arrows. These articles of defence and attack look more like toys for children than like the formidable weapons which they really are in the hands of these miniature men—Tit

another tribe apply very hot irons to their bodies to cure certain ailments!

Writing of the pigmy tribes—a race RING BROTHERS, LIMITED, of very small people who live in the Hardware Department.—may18.tf

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